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FOUR VALENTINES.

BY NELLIE M. GARABRANT.

I remember my first valentine.
The cause of childish joy;
For I was then a tiny girl,
The sender out a boy.
It was indeed a gorgeous thing,
In brilliant colors wrought,—
Above a bleeding, broken heart
Fat Cupids fiercely fought.

The next love message I received
When I was sweet sixteen,—
A pretty trifle, frill and lace,
With tissue blue between;
Two pink hearts on an arrow fixed,
Surrounded by a wreath;
An altar, church, white doves and rings;
Hymeneal lines beneath.

The third—ah, friend's! it was the last,
The dearest, and the best;
It told a tale of honest love;
It brought me joy and rest.
A cream white shield of satin bore
A moss-rose wet with dew;
The name I loved was written on
A tiny scroll of blue.

The sender—well, I married him
One bright St. Valentine.
He spoke the words that made his name,
Home, goods and chattels mine.
I said 'twas the *last* valentine.
But that I now recall;
For I have still another one,
The sweetest of them all.

The sweetest and the prettiest,
A marvel 'tis of grace:
Pink, rounded limbs, pink, chubby feet,
And rosy, dimpled face.
Fourteenth of Feb'ury it came,
Borne in the arms of Joy.
What painted page can e'er compete
With this dear baby-boy?
"What shall we name him?" papa says;
"Now tell me, wife mine."
I smiling turn, and laughing say,
"We'll call him 'Valentine.'"

—*Oliver Optic's Magazine.*

A MONTE FLAT PASTORAL.

How Old Man Plunkett went Home

BRET HARTE'S LAST STORY.

No word was spoken. As the barkeeper silently swung a decanter and a glass before him, he took a cracker from a dish and mumbled it with affected unconcern. He lingered over his liquor until its potency stiffened his relaxed sinews, and dulled the nervous edge of his apprehension, and then he suddenly faced around. "It don't look as if we were goin' to hev any rain much afore Christmas," he said, with defiant ease.

No one made any reply.

"Just like this in '52 and again in '60. It's always been my opinion that these dry seasons come reglar. I've said it afore. I say it again. It's jist as I said about going home, you know," he added with desperate recklessness.

"That's a man," said Abner Dean, lazily, "ez sez you never went home. That's a man ez sez you've been three years in Sonora. There's a man ez sez you hain't seen your wife and daughter since '49. That's a man ez sez you've been playin' this camp for six months."

There was a dead silence. Then a voice said, quite as quietly: "That man lies."

It was not the old man's voice. Everybody turned as Henry York slowly rose, stretching out his six feet of length, and, brushing away the ashes that had fallen from his pipe upon his breast, deliberately placed himself beside Plunkett, and faced the others.

"That man ain't here," continued Abner Dean, with listless indifference of voice and a gentle pre-occupation of manner, as he carelessly allowed his right hand to rest on his revolver. "That man ain't here, but if I'm called upon to make good what he says, why I'm on hand."

All rose as the two men—perhaps the least externally agitated of them all—approached each other. The lawyer stepped in between them.

"Perhaps there's some mistake here. York, do you know that the old man has been home?"

"Yes."

"How do you know it?"

York turned his clear, honest, frank eyes on his questioner, and without a tremor, told the only direct and unmitigated lie of his life:

"Because I've seen him there."

The answer was conclusive. It was known that York had been visiting in the East during the old man's absence. The colloquy had diverted attention from Plunkett, who, pale and breathless, was staring at his unexpected deliverer. As he turned again towards his tormentors, there was something in the expression of his eye that caused those that were nearest to him to fall back, and sent a strange, indefinable thrill through the boldest and most reckless. As he made a step forward, the physician almost unconsciously raised his hand with a warning gesture, and old man Plunkett, with his eyes fixed upon the red hot stove, and an odd smile playing about his mouth, began:

"—Yes—of course you did. Who says you didn't? I said I was goin' home, and I've been home. Haven't I? My God! I have. Who says I've been lyin'? Who says I'm dreamin'? Is it true—why don't you speak? It is true after all. You say you saw me there; why don't you speak again? Say! Say!—is it true? It's going now, O my God—it's going again. It's going now. Save me!" and with a fierce cry, he fell forward in a fit upon the floor.

When the old man regained his senses he found himself in York's cabin. A flickering fire of pine boughs lit up the rude rafters and fell upon a photograph tastefully framed with fir cones and hung above the brush whereon he lay. It was the portrait of a young girl. It was the first object to meet the old man's gaze, and it brought with it a flush of such painful consciousness, that he started and glanced quickly around. But his eyes only encountered those of York—clear, gray, critical, and patient, and they fell again.

"Tell me, old man," said York, not unkindly, but with the same cold, clear tone in his voice that his eye betrayed a moment ago, "tell me, is that a lie too?" and he pointed to the picture.

The old man closed his eyes and did not reply. Two hours before, the question would have stung him into some evasion or bravado. But the revelation contained in the question, as well as the tone of York's voice, was to him now, in his pitiable condition, a relief. It was plain even to his confused brain that York had lied when he had endorsed his story in the bar room; it was clear to him now that he had not been home—that he was not, as he had begun to fear, going mad. It was such a relief that with characteristic weakness his former recklessness and extravagance returned. He began to chuckle—finally to laugh uproariously.

York, with his eyes still fixed on the old man, withdrew the hand with which he had taken his.

"Didn't we fool 'em nicely, eh, Yorky? He! he! The biggest thing ever yet played in this camp! I always said I'd play 'em all some day, and I have played 'em for six months. Ain't it rich—ain't it the richest thing you ever seed? Did you see Abner's face when he spoke 'bout that man as seed me in Sonora?—worn't it good as the minstrels? O it's too much!" and striking his leg with the palm of his hand he almost threw himself from the bed in a paroxysm of laughter—a paroxysm that nevertheless appeared to be half real and half affected.

"Is that photograph hers?" said York in a low voice, after a slight pause.

"Hers? No! It's one of the San Francisco actresses, he! he! Didn't you see—I bought it for two bits in one of the book stores. I never thought they'd swallar that too! but they did! Oh, but the old man played 'em this time, didn't he—eh?" and he peered curiously in York's face.

"Yes, and he played me too," said York, looking steadily in the old man's eye.

"Yes, of course," interposed Plunkett, hastily, "but you know, Yorky, you got out of it well! You've sold 'em too. We've both got 'em on a string now—you and me—got to stick together now. You did it well, Yorky, you did it well. Why when you said you'd seen me in York City, I'm d—d if I didn't——"

"Did't what?" said York, gently, for the old man had stopped with a pale face and wandering eye.

"Oh!"

"You say when I said I had seen you in New York you thought——"

"You lie!" said the old man fiercely, "I didn't say I thought anything. What are you trying to go back on me for? Eh?" His hands were trembling as he rose muttering from the bed and made his way toward the hearth.

"Gimme some whisky," he said presently, "and dry up. You oughter treat anyway. Them fellows oughter treated last night. By hookey I'd made 'em—only I fell sick."

York placed the liquor and a tin cup on the table beside him, and going to the door turned his back upon his guest and looked out on the night. Although it was clear moonlight, the familiar prospect never to him seemed so dreary. The dead waste of the broad Wingdam highway never seemed so monotonous—so like the days that he had passed and were to come to him—so like the old man in its suggestion of going sometime and never getting there. He turned, and going up to Plunkett put his hand upon his shoulder and said:

"I want you to answer one question fairly and squarely."

The liquor seemed to have warmed the torpid blood in the old man's veins and softened his acerbity, for the face he turned up to York was mellowed in its rugged outline, and more thoughtful in its expression, as he said:

"Go on, my boy."

"Have you a wife and—daughter?"

"Before God I have!"

The two men were silent for a moment; both gazing at the fire. Then Plunkett began rubbing his knees slowly.

"The wife, if it has come to that, ain't much," he began cautiously, "being a little on the shoulder, you know, and wantin' ss to speak, a liberal California education,—which makes, you know, a bad combination. It's always been my opinion that there ain't any worse. Why, she's as ready with her tongue as Abner Dean is with his revolver, only with the difference that she shoots from principle, as she calls it, and the consequence is, she's always layin' for you. It's the effete East, my boy, that's ruinin' her—it's them ideas she gets in New York and Boston that's made her and me what we are. I don't mind her havin' 'em if she didn't shoot. But havin' that propensity, them principles oughtn't to be lying round loose no more'n firearms."

"But your daughter?" said York.

The old man's hands went up to his eyes here, and then both hands and head drodped forward on the table. "Don't say anything 'bout her, my boy; dont ask me now—"

With one hand concealing his eyes, he fumbled about with the other for his handkerchief—but vainly. Perhaps it was owing to this fact that he repressed his tears, for when he removed his hand from his eyes, they were quite dry. Then he found his voice.

"She's a beautiful girl, beautiful—though I say it, and you shall see her, my boy, you shall see her sure. I've got things fixed about now. I shall have my plan for reducing ores perfected in a day or two and I have got proposals from all the smeltin' works here" (here he hastily produced a bundle of papers that fell upon the floor) "and I'm going to send for 'em. I've got the papers here as will give me $10,000 in the next month," he added as he strove to collect the valuable documents again. "I'll have 'em here by Christmas, if I live, and you shall eat your Christmas dinner with me, York, my boy—you shall, sure."

With his tongue now fairly loosened by liquor, he rambled on, more or less incoherently, elaborating and amplifying his plans, until the moon rode high in the heavens, and York led him again to his couch. Here he lay for some time muttering to himself, until at last he sank into a heavy sleep. When York had satisfied himself of the fact, he took down the picture and frame and, going to the hearth, tossed them on the dying embers, and sat down to see them burn.

The fir cones leaped instantly into flames; then the features that had entranced San Francisco audiences nightly flashed up and passed away,—as such things are apt to pass,—and even the cynical smile on York's lips faded too. And then there came a supplemental and unexpected flash, as the embers fell together, and by its light York saw a paper upon the floor. It was one that had fallen from the old man's pocket. As he picked it up listlessly, a photograph slipped from the folds. It was a portrait of a young girl, and on its reverse was written, in a scrawling hand, "Melinda to father."

It was at the best a cheap picture, but ah me! I fear even the deft graciousness of the highest order could not have softened the rigid angularities of that youthful figure, its self-complacent vulgarity, its cheap finery, its expressionless lineaments. York did not look at it the second time. He turned to the letter for relief.

It was mis-spelled, it was unpunctuated, it was almost illegible, it was fretful in tone and selfish in sentiment. It was not, I fear, even original in the story of its woes. It was the harsh recital of poverty, of suspicion, of mean makeshifts and compromises, of low pains and lower longings, of sorrows that were degrading, of grief that was pitiable. Yet it was sincere in a certain vague yearning for the presence of the degraded man to whom it was written,—an affection that was more like a confused instinct than a sentiment.

York folded it again carefully and placed it beneath the old man's pillow. Then he returned to his seat by the fire. A smile that had been playing upon his face, deepening the curves behind his moustache and gradually over running his clear brown eyes, presently faded away. It was last to go from his eyes, and it left there,—oddly enough to those who did not know him—a tear.

He sat there for a long time, leaning forward, his head upon his hands. The wind that had been striving with the canvas roof, all at once lifted its edges and a moonbean slipped suddenly in, and lay for a moment like a shining blade upon his shoulder. And, knighted by its touch, straightway plain Henry York arose,—sustained, high purposed and self-reliant.

The rains had come at last. There was already a visible greenness on the slopes of Heavytree Hill, and the long, white track of the Wingdam road was lost in outlying pools and ponds a hundred rods from Monte Flat. The spent water courses, whose white bones had been sinuously trailed over the flat, like the vertebræ of some forgotten Saurian, were full again; the dry bones moved once more in the valley, and there was joy in the ditches, and a pardonable extravagance in the columns of the Monte Flat Monitor. "Never before in the history of the country has the yield been so satisfactory. Our contemporary of the Hillside Beacon, who yesterday facetiously alluded to the fact (?) that our best citizens were leaving town in 'dug-outs,' on account of the flood, will be glad to hear that our distinguished fellow-townsman, Mr. Henry York, now on a visit to his relatives in the East, lately took with him, in his 'dig-out,' the modest sum of $50,000, the result of one week's clean-up. We can imagine," continued the sprightly journal, "that no such misfortune is likely to overtake Hillsdale this season. And yet we believe the Beacon man wants a railroad." A few journals broke out into poetry. The operator at Simpson's Crossing telegraphed to the Sacramento Universe: "All day the low clouds have shook their garnered fullness down." A San Francisco journal lapsed into noble verse, thinly disguised as editorial prose: "Rejoice, the gentle rain has come, the bright and pearly rain, which scatters blessings on the hills, and sifts them o'er the plain. Rejoice," etc. Indeed, there was only one to whom the rain had not brought blessing, and that was Plunkett. In some mysterious and darksome way, it had interfered with the perfection of his new method of reducing ores, and thrown the advent of that invention back another season. It had brought him down to an habitual seat in the bar-room, where, to heedless and inattentive ears, he sat and discoursed of the East and his family.

No one disturbed him. Indeed it was, rumored that some funds had been lodged with the landlord, by a person or persons unknown, whereby his few wants were provided for. His manis—for that was the charitable construction which Monte Flat put upon his conduct—was indulged, even to the extent of Monte Flat's accepting his invitation to dine with his family on Christmas Day—an invitation frankly extended to every one with whom the old man drank or talked. But one day, to everybody's astonishment, he burst into the bar-room, holding an open letter in his hand. It read as follows:

"Be ready to meet your family at the new cottage on Heavytree Hill, on Christmas day. Invite what friends you choose. HENRY YORK."

The letter was handed round in silence. The old man, with a look alternating between hope and fear, gazed in the faces of the group. The doctor looked up significantly, after a pause.

"It's a forgery, evidently," he said in a low voice; "he's cunning enough to conceive it—they always are—but you'll find he'll fail in executing it. Watch his face! Old man," he said, suddenly, in a loud, peremptory tone, "this is a trick—a forgery—and you know it. Answer me squarely, and look me in the eye. Isn't it so?"

The eyes of old Plunkett stared a moment, and then drooped weakly. Then, with a feebler smile, he said: "You're too many for me, boys. The Doc.'s right. The little game's up. You can take the old man's bar;" and so, tottering, trembling and chuckling, he dropped into silence and his accustomed seat. But the next day he seemed to have forgotten this episode, and talked as glibly as ever of the approaching festivity.

And so the days and weeks passed until Christmas—a bright, clear day, warmed with south winds, and joyous with the resurrection of springing grasses—broke upon Monte Flat. And then there was a sudden commotion in the hotel bar room, and then Abner Dean stood beside the old man's chair, and shook him out of slumber to his feet.

"Rouse up, old man. York is here with your wife and daughter. Come, old man. Here, boys, give him a lift;" and in another moment a dozen strong and willing hands had raised the old man and bore him in triumph to the street, up the steep grade of Heavytree Hill, and deposited him, struggling and confused, in the porch of a little cottage. At the same instant, two women rushed forward, but were restrained by a gesture from Henry York. The old man was struggling to his feet. With an effort, at last, he stood erect, trembling, his eye fixed, a gray pallor on his cheek, and a deep resonance in his voice:

"It's all a trick and a lie! They ain't no flesh and blood or kin o' mine. It ain't my wife, nor child. My daughter's a beautiful girl—a beautiful girl—d'ye hear? She's in New York, with her mother, and I'm going to fetch her here. I said I'd go home, and I've been home—d'ye hear me?—I've been home! It's a mean trick you're playin' on the old man. Let me go,—d'ye hear? Keep them women off me! Let me go! I'm going—I'm going home!"

His hands were thrown up convulsively in the air, and, half turning round, he fell sideways on the porch, and so to the ground. They picked him up hurriedly; but too late. He had gone home.—*Scribner's Monthly.*

Lucky Omens.

What an exhibition of human weakness is made in the petty superstitions regarding so-called omens, and lucky and unlucky days! Let us run over a few of these follies, not exploded in certain sections of the country.

Odd numbers—barring the ever fatal thirteen—are thought to be lucky. The shrill piping of the household cricket is prophetic of happiness to the hearth it haunts, as surely as the setting of a stork upon a Dutchman's roof tree boles pleasant times to the dwellers beneath it. The forlornest of animals, the masterless dog, that follows close upon the heels of a night-walker, and will not be balked of companionship, is a certain luck-bringer. Black cats should be at a premium, considering a stray puss of that hue who takes a fancy to establishing himself in a house, introduces good fortune with him; while a cat of any color, whether an invited visiter or an acknowledged member of the family, ought never to be restrained from sharpening his talons at the expense of the table's legs, since when he thus scratches, he scratches for luck. Pat kindly the head of the first lamb of spring, if you have the chance—it will bring prosperity to you and yours, but avoid the innocent creature if it presents its tail to view. Hail the first hearing of the cuckoo's voice with thankfulness, if he salutes you upon your right hand—then his greeting is an assurance you will make your way in the world, and attain the highest object of your ambition; and begrudge not a sip of good liquor to the busy, curious, thirsty fly, dropping into your glass, but welcome the intruder as heartily, if not as poetically, as Oldys did; he brings good luck to the glass, and to the drinker, too.

To come suddenly upon a couple of magpies, to pick up a pin with its head toward you, to find—of course without seeking—a four-leaved clover, or a bit of old iron, is a matter for rejoicing; if the iron take the shape of a rusty nail or an old horse-shoe, the omen is so much the more fortunate. Absent minded and careless dressers are likely to be often in luck's way. To put on any garment wrong side out, provided we are not neat enough to spoil the charm, is an infallible prognostic that something is about to happen which will profit the sloven greatly. Mr. Village tells us in the Connoisseur, how his pretty cousin came down to breakfast one morning with her cap on wrong side out, whereupon her mother solemnly charged the heedless lassie not to alter her head gear all the day for fear she should change the luck. When the Conqueror was arraying himself on the morning of Hastings, some one hinted he would get the worst of the coming bout, because, in his haste, he had donned his mail-shirt hind part before; but the ready witted and confident Norman declared it to be a token that he was about to be transformed from a duke into a king; an interpretation, at any rate, not to be disputed a few hours later.

Trouble will never come near folks whose eyebrows meet. Ladies with overmuch down, gentlemen with overmuch hair upon their arms and hands, carry about them nature's own guarantee that they are born to be rich some day, as rich as those happy individuals whose front teeth are set wide apart. Steel belongings, such as keys and knives, get rusty by instinct, spite of all pains to keep them clean and bright, when some kind-hearted soul is laying up riches for their owner's benefit. To find a spider upon one's clothes indicates some money is coming to us. The moral of which, Fuller says, is this: "Such as imitate the industry of that contemptible creature may, by God's blessing, weave themselves into wealth and procure a plentiful estate." The appearance of a white speck upon a finger-nail warns the owner of the finger that a gift is on its way; and the same pleasant notification is made by the itching of the palm of the right hand; but in that case it is best to make assurance doubly sure, and rub the said palm against wood; and then "it is sure to be good."

It is not pleasant to stumble up stairs, but there is some consolation for sore shins in knowing that a wedding will come off in the house ere twelve months have passed by, even if the stumbler have no hope of being a party concerned in the event. Should a spinster or a bachelor be inadvertently placed between a married pair at the dinner-table, he or she will taste the sweets of connubial bliss before the year is out. A maiden who has constant ill-luck at the card-table will play the game of life with greater success partnered with a good husband. Happy will be the bride that the sun shines on, and if a hen cackles in her new home as she crosses its threshold, she will be a happy mother as well as a contented wife. The old notion prevails in some parts of France, that when two marriages take place at the same time, the bride who first leaves the church will have a boy for her first child. Not long ago, two weddings were celebrated simultaneously at Archies. As soon as the ceremony was over, the two couples and their friends made all haste to reach the church door, and, to use a sporting phrase, made a dead-heat of it. Neither party were inclined to yield precedence, defiant looks were exchanged, and things wore a threatening aspect, when the Mayor, stepping to the front, solved the difficulty by giving an arm to each of the brides, and taking them out together, to the immense relief of their respective friends.—*Chamber's Journal.*

A Swarm of Locusts.

The following historical facts will give an idea of the enormous magnitude sometimes attained by migrating swarms of insects. After the defeat of Poltava, while retreating through Bessarabia, Charles XII.'s army was marching through a defile, when suddenly the men and horses were brought to a halt, being precipitated from a thick cloud which intercepted the light of the sun. The coming of the locusts was heralded by a whizzing sound like that which precedes a storm of wind, and the noise of their wings and of their bodies as they clashed together was greater than the roar of breakers on the sea shore. General Levaillan saw at Philippeville, Algeria, a cloud of locusts twenty to twenty-five miles in length, which, when it descended to the earth, formed a layer over an inch in thickness. Toward the close of 1864, the cotton plantations of Senegal were destroyed, and a living cloud was seen to pass over the country from morning till night; the rate at which it moved showed that it was about fifty miles long; and this was only the vanguard, for when the sun went down a still denser cloud was moving on. The English traveler, Barrow, states that in Southern Africa, in the year 1797, these insects covered the ground to the extent of two square miles, and that having been driven by the wind toward the sea, they formed a drift near the coast nearly four feet in depth and fifty miles long. After the wind changed, the stench of their putrefying carcasses was recognized at the distance of a hundred and fifty miles.

Louisiana Affairs.

The proposed Constitutional amendment limiting the State debt to $15,000,000, and taxation for all purposes to $12,000,000, guaranteeing the principal and the interest of the new consolidation bonds to be issued in funding the debt, providing that the revenues of each year derived from taxation shall be devoted solely to the expenses of that year, passed the House on the 21st by a unanimous vote. They had previously passed the Senate. The bill funding all valid outstanding bonds of the State at 60 cents on the dollar in seven per cent. bonds, principal and interest secured by the foregoing Constitutional amendment, also passed the House by a large majority. It repeals contingent debts of the State, consisting of bonds not issued and stock not subscribed, amounting to over $18,000,000. The bill, with two slight amendments, is substantially the same recommended by the Chamber of Commerce. It goes to the Senate for Concurrence.

The Associated Press telegrams in the morning papers, regarding the doings of Pinchback in Washington, fell like a bombshell in the Kellogg camp. At the Mechanic's Institute a caucus of the delegates was at once called, which resulted in telegraphing to Pinchback that a new election is not at present desirable.

It is reported that Senator Morton's action in reference to Pinchback's seat was based upon the confession of Pinchback himself of questionable practices in securing his election by the Louisiana Legislature. It is said that damaging reports about the election having reached Morton, he sent for Pinchback, who made a clean breast of it, whereupon Morton abandoned the policy of seating Pinchback on prima facie evidence, and asked that the matter be carried to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, to investigate the conduct of Pinchback. The latter it is said is very angry at his treatment, wants a new election, and threatens damaging disclosures regarding the operations of Louisiana politicians. The reason of his course is said to be his exclusion from benefits and privileges of the Kellogg ring. Representatives Saucedo and Sypher, and ex-Senator Harris, all of Louisiana, called on the President to express, it is said, their views in opposition to the election in that State.

Senator Carpenter and Gen. Butler also had an interview with the President. It is asserted that these gentlemen are on the other side of the question.

Numerous paragraphs have recently appeared in the newspapers, stating what the President would or would not do in relation to Louisiana and other public matters now attracting general attention, and the President is sometimes represented as having expressed views which he certainly does not entertain, and which would be contrary to the course he has heretofore pursued. Reports prevail that the President has differences with political friends, and is disposed to act altogether independently of them, but it is known from those having intimate relations with him that the reports are unfounded; nor is it probable that any differences are likely to exist, excepting such as may be inseparable from the views the President may himself take of his constitutional duties and the official responsibility which attaches to his office. Acting in accordance with the constitutional requirement that the President shall from time to time give Congress information on the state of the Union, he is now engaged in the preparation of a message which he will submit to the Cabinet before transmitting to Congress. This message will, according to the present understanding be confined to a plain but elaborate statement of the facts attending the federal proceedings in Louisiana in the support of the United States judicial decision, which he had no authority to disregard, whatever might have been his own opinion upon the political questions offered by them. It is positively known that the President has not interfered in any way with the Louisiana question in relation to the seats either in the Senate or House of Representatives. To Louisianians of both parties who have called upon him, he has repeatedly said that such questions properly belong to Congress, the Constitution making each House the judge of election returns, and the qualifications of its own members, and that the consideration of such questions involves the subject of the legality of the authority under which certificates of election were issued, so the one question necessarily affects the other, and both could at the same time be determined. This, in the substance, is the reply he has unreservedly given to those who have interrogated him on the subject of the bill proposed to be passed by Congress ordering a new election in Louisiana. He has opposed such legislation, and while thus opposing Congressional interference, he has no hesitation in saying to visitors, as he reported recently, that there was no doubt that the late election in Louisiana was an organized fraud from the beginning to the end, for the benefit of those now in possession of the government of that State, and that there has never yet been a fair count of votes, the results having been reached by dishonest means too well known to be repeated. It is, therefore, not probable that he will, in his forthcoming special message, make any special recommendation for a new election. His opinion, as recently privately expressed, being that Congress has no more right to order a new election in Louisiana, than it has in any other State because of local conflict, all States now being equal in the Union, and are as much entitled to the same general protection from illegal or unconstitutional interference by any branch of the Federal Government as they are against invasion or domestic violence; and besides, there are means to settle Louisiana and all kindred cases, without resort to Congressional action in ordering a new election.

Mr. Pinchback's friends deny that he made any confession to Senator Morton of fraudulent practices, with reference to the Kansas election, by the Kellogg Legislature. They say, in explanation of the recent commotion among those interested in the Louisiana case, that when Senator Morton introduced his resolution to recommit the Pinchback case, the latter thought his chances for admission to the Senate jeopardized thereby, and various statements and threats were made, showing a disposition to turn out the Kellogg party. Now, however, Pinchback asserts his conviction that upon the investigation of his case, the Committee on Privileges and Elections will not find that the charges against him are made out. He says he has been tendered the unanimous support of the true Republicans of Louisiana, and that thus fortified he is determined to abide the issue before the Senate. The Kellogg party, it is said, were somewhat hasty in their fears regarding the new election. They were surprised by the unexpectedness of Senator Morton's motion. That surprise being over, they now desire that Pinchback's case shall be brought out on its merits. Pinchback does not make a secret of his determination to favor a new election if he is defeated before the Senate by the efforts of certain white Representatives of Louisiana.

AFLOAT ON THE ICE.

Sixty Men and Their Teams Start Down the River on the Ice—Exciting Scenes and Perilous Positions.

[From the Kansas City Times, 20th.]

The Kansas River, which every one knows divides Kansas City from its suburban neighbor, Wyandotte City, "got upon a regular tear" yesterday, and for half an hour was the scene of great excitement, rivalling in intensity the excitement prevailing on board the *Ville du Havre* after her collision with the *Loch Earn*.

The river has been frozen over for a few days past, and during this time has been the scene of great bustle and excitement. The ice-dealers—among them Vinquest, Eidemiller, Atwell, and other large dealers in ice—have been at work ever since the ice was three inches thick, busily saving all that could be cut. Here was a city of fifty thousand people depending upon them for the means of keeping cool, and the wherewithal to make mint juleps and cobblers next summer. Hundreds of men were at work on the thin surface of the tranquil Kaw. Day gangs gave way to night gangs, and night gangs in turn went home to give way to the daylight reliefs. Strings of teams came and went in constant procession. Tramways were built from immense warehouses on shore far out into the river. Horses plowed backwards and forwards, cutting out long layers of the valuable crystal substance, which was hourly becoming more valuable, as the rain of Sunday and the cold thaw of Monday threatened a dissolution. It was about the middle of Monday afternoon, when the crisis came. A vast area of the river's surface had been cleared of ice, hundreds of men and teams were coming and going. The ice had reached a thickness of about six or seven inches, and the thaw of Sunday and Monday had made it rather rotten. Suddenly a loud crackling was heard above, below, and all around the working parties. The cracking increased with the loud cries of alarm from those upon the river. A general rush was made for shore, but too late, for all the ice which had been partially separated by cutting on both sides, separated with a loud crack, and almost immediately afterward a breach was opened between the men on the ice and the shore. Shouts and cries of alarm from those on shore and those who now perceived themselves going down stream on a huge ice-cake which was within a few hundred yards of the rushing, turbid waters of the Missouri River, these, combined with the cracking of the immense mass of ice, made a scene of commotion as exciting as it was interesting. After the first alarm had somewhat subsided, a concerted attempt was made by those on shore to assist in rescuing the men and horses now on the floating cake of ice. It was plainly evident that if the vast sheet of rotten ice should reach the mouth of the river it would be broken up in the rapid current of the Missouri River, and men and teams must go down among the confusion of broken ice. Ropes, planks and other appliances were brought into requisition, as the ice raft floated slowly towards the mouth of the river. But the men on this fragile craft were not to be lost. Man himself was powerless to restrain the vast sheet of ice, or to bridge over the smooth, placid chasm between it and shore. But providence came in at the last moment. The raft drifted so that its widest part came across the shore, reached from shore to shore. This gorged the ice a few minutes, but long enough to allow the imperiled men and horses to escape to shore, which they had no time in doing, all being saved just as the ice again broke up and went on rushing out of the Kaw into the Missouri River.

A Present that Cannot be Accepted Except by Act of Congress.

(From the Philadelphia Press.)

The Department of State is in possession of a magnificent sword, sent by the late Castelar government of Spain as a present to President Grant. It was left at the American legation at Madrid by Gen. Sanchez Bregua, Castelar's Minister of War, and forwarded to the United States by Gen. Sickles, through Gen. S. W. Crawford. It is a superb Toledo blade of rare workmanship, and of the finest metal and temper. On one side is a list of the battles in which Gen. Grant figured during the rebellion, and on the other the words, "Let us have peace." The hilt is what is known as the basket pattern, and instead of having been cast, it was carved entirely by hand. The scabbard is of polished steel, without any ornament. Under the Constitution neither the President nor any other officer of the United States can accept a present from any foreign government, and it will require an act of Congress to enable Gen. Grant to become the possessor of this splendid sword.

A Pennsylvanian 111 Years Old.

From the Philadelphia Press.

George LeBar, born at Mount Bethel, Northampton county, Pennsylvania, in the autumn of 1763, is still living at Scrangeville, Monroe county, in his 111th year. His biographer, Mr. A. B. Burrell, has seen him several times, and gives us the following particulars: "He had voted for every President since Washington; has voted the Democratic ticket always. When he was born there were 1,000,000 of people in the United States; that has grown to 40,000,000. He has ten grandchildren and eighty great grandchildren. He has a son who had the same number of grandchildren."

The following incidents are taken from Mr. Burrell's book: "Mr. La Bar has had fourteen children in all. But, if we throw away three-sevenths for deaths and casualties, we will have four-sevenths or eight of the fourteen, left as producing members. He had ten such, but we will make eight the producing stock, and the result will show an army of 12,970. This may be too high, but we should remember that we have been counting for four generations, where as there have been at least five generations since the original brothers went out from their bachelor cabin. Again, George's eight producing children increased by a raise of eight, and we have sixty-four grandchildren; then throwing away three-sevenths, we have four-sevenths, or thirty-seven left, which increased again by our ratio, we have 296 great grandchildren. Deducting and multiplying as before, we have 1,360 great great grandchildren—most of them yet to be! Of course one-half of the La Bar descendants have many different names, coming from the female side, which is changed by marriage. I find the La Bar blood reaches into almost every family in Mount Bethel and Monroe county, and across the river into Warren county, New Jersey. George La Bar's oldest child was born in 1791, and is therefore 79 years of age. He was married at 21 to a girl of 18. Their oldest child is now 56. This is Mr. La Bar's oldest grandchild. The old son and his young wife are still living, having raised a large family—so it seems to be healthy for a girl to marry at 18. Their oldest child is less than fifteen years younger than his mother, and his head is far whiter to-say than his old grandfather's of 111 years."

A Texan Experience.

Some of the small towns in the interior are indeed trials to him who must stay in them. My severest episode was in a Northern Texas metropolis—torturers shall not wring from me its name—where the main hotel was a new board structure, without the suspicion of ceiling or lathing on the premises, and through whose roof one could see the stars. The front office was about the size of a New England wood box, and when some twenty persons, variously impregnated with questionable liquors, had gathered therein, the effluvia became positively intoxicating. In the long, creaking supper room beyond, a dirty cloth was laid down on a dirtier table, and pork, fried to a cinder, swimming in grease, hot enough to scorch the palate, was placed before the guests. To this was presently added, by the hands of a tall, angular, red-haired woman, a yellow mass of dough supposed to be a biscuit, a cup of black, bitter bean-juice named coffee, and, as a crowning act of torture, a mustard-pot, with very watery mustard in it. This, the regular sustenance of the unfortunate population of that town, was so unusually bad that I forthwith desired to be shown to my room; and was ushered into a creaking loft over a whisky saloon, in which a mob of drunken railroad laborers were quarreling, and threatening with the most outrageous profanity, to annihilate each other with the utmost speed. To this music I attempted to lull my wearied body to repose; but did not succeed, and went to the front on the morning train unrefreshed. Even at the station my troubles were not at an end, for on venturing to expostulate with an employe for not checking my baggage, he profanely condemned me, and added, "It's mighty easy to get up a fight in Texas." It is my firm belief that, had I remained 24 hours in that town, I should have been accommodated with a personal experience of all the romantic features commonly accredited to the whole of Texas.—*Edward King, in "Glimpses of Texas," Scribner's for February.*

A Bridegroom's Desperation.

A young man who had agreed to marry at Mattoon, Ind., on the last day of the year, very narrowly escaped disappointing his chosen bride. How it happened, and how he triumphed over seemingly desperate fate, is thus told by the Terre Haute *Express*: "Mounting the early train, he reached Paris, but there, in an evil moment, he left the train to go around the corner and get a cigar. He stayed too long, and the train went off. What was he to do now? The ceremony took place at precisely two o'clock, and if he didn't get there in time there would be a fearful row. So in default of any other plan, he started off walking, thinking to himself how he could manage to get there on time. While engaged in these reflections, a hand car came along, propelled by three stout section hands. Hailing the men, he was allowed to get aboard and take a hand at the motive power of the open conch. He worked himself into a sweat, and finally, when about three miles from Mattoon, the men took their car off the track and went to work, refusing either for love or money, to go further. Out of this dilemma the youth found his way by engaging a mate of an old farmer who lived near. There was no saddle in the stable which he would allow to go with the beast, and therefore the young man was compelled to go it bare-back. When he arrived at the house the clock had struck three, and the entire party was in consternation as he rode up to the door, both legs wrapped around that animal's body, slashing him with a club at every jump, and followers in his career by half the boys in town."

Eugenie.

The *Journal de Paris* states that M. Rouher was last night with the Prince to recommend a concession in value of which the Empress Eugenie will receive a sum of 3,000,000 francs, payable in annuities. The Shah will also restore to Her Majesty the Chinese museum at Fontainebleau, and the collection of arms at Pierrefonds, as well as the works of art purchased by the Emperor.

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

D. R. LOCKE. J. P. JONES.

LOCKE & JONES, Proprietors.

TOLEDO, OHIO, THURSDAY, JAN. 29, 74.

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THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

Judging from all indications from Washington, the adjustment of the currency question is no nearer solution now than it was last autumn before the meeting of Congress. Both the House and the Senate evince no disposition whatever to sacrifice personal views and personal selfishness upon the altar of patriotism, and therefore make no united effort to endeavor to relieve the present financial embarrassment of the great mass of their constituents, whose interests it is their duty to protect and advance. The able Washington correspondent of the New York *Tribune*, in commenting upon the situation, truthfully remarks: "The House has already shown a pitiable want of resolution and conviction upon it. The Senate is discussing the question in heavy speeches of two or three hours' length, but the Finance Committee has not yet reported a bill. In the House, the Banking and Currency Committee is so constituted that it can originate no decisive measure. It will probably report some bill to serve as a peg on which to hang discussion: but there is no reason to anticipate any definite action as the result of the debate, for either contraction, inflation, or specie payments. From all these indications and probabilities, experienced members are predicting a rather monotonous session, and an adjournment in May."

In the meantime, opulent bankers and heavy capitalists, who are masters of the situation, and the subservient army of those who serve their interests in Congress and out of it, for personal reward, hound on the cry for specie resumption, although perfectly well aware that at the present time there is not sufficient specie in the country to meet in any adequate degree its business demands, while in all that is requisite to sustain life, and develop and improve the material interests of the land, its riches are incomparably great. Nevertheless, the advocates of immediate specie resumption, thus wilfully and understandingly seek to paralyze national prosperity, and retard national advancement, by reducing the great laboring masses to a state of abject servitude and dependence, to the capitalist for years, and perhaps a life time, in order that the rich may grow richer and the poor poorer, by advocating resumption when it is impossible to do so without jeopardizing national prosperity. Since it has been so potently demonstrated that metal currency has never met the wants of the people of the United States in any great emergency, how it is possible for sane, reflective men to advocate it in the present financial crisis, can only be accounted for upon two theories, either the promptings of selfish, personal advantages, or a thorough misconception of the monetary question.

☞ Some ladies in Washington were disposed to turn up their noses because Mrs. Secretary DELANO, when she went to Washington City, received callers with knitting in hand. Mrs. DELANO is the right kind of a woman, and it is a pity that her truly Republican manners is not more generally prevalent at the Capitol.

☞ We are in receipt of a memorial to Congress, from the Patrons of Husandry of the State of Louisiana, asking for the construction of the Fort St. Philip Canal, at the mouth of the Mississippi River.

☞ The new postoffice building at Cincinnati will not be commenced this year. Economy and lack of funds threw it over.

COTTON NOT KING.

The suffering from starvation in certain counties of Alabama, where cotton culture has been extensively relied upon, quite explode the old theory which, in the days when slavery was at its zenith in the Southern States, sought to intimidate the advocates of freedom by the assertion that Cotton was King, and since it could not possibly be produced by free labor, ergo, slavery was a national necessity. But now, with the "disorganized state of the old labor system," about which former slaveholders lament so greivously, cotton nevertheless is as cheap as it was before the war, from which the deduction is inferred that it is not only as extensively raised, but is by no means king, since it has lost all power to control or even shape the welfare of humanity, and where planted to the exclusion of breadstuffs is very apt to lead to disastrous results when any of the numerous destroying enemies which are wont to prey upon it gain the upper hand, and produce failures like those from which the people of Alabama are now suffering. A prominet cotton planter of Georgia, in a letter to the Governor of Rhode Island, published in the Providence *Journal*, inadvertently proclaims the secret of successful cotton culture by means of free labor, by admitting that most of the cotton now raised in Georgia and Texas is "by small, one-horse farmers and negroes who rent land." These plant but a few acres and tend that well, not relying exclusively upon the success of the crop for their support, but making themselves independent by the cultivation of sufficient breadstuffs and edible products for man and beast to prevent corn famines, such as now are causing great distress and loss of land and personal property to those Alabamians who mortgaged their estates and risked their all to produce enormous cotton crops, and who, through this unremunerative and needless risk, have now lost all.

Atlanta alone, during the past year, received 43,000 bales of cotton, worth $3,000,000, which was produced by these "small one-horse farmers and negroes who rent land," whose number the same writer avers is not less than 10,000, which proves that under the present system a few men cannot monopolize the growth and production of any one staple. The assertion is also made that the inauguration of this free labor system is in a large measure affecting the financial condition of the South, since these laboring people have no faith in banks, and when they have bought what they need, hoard their surplus money, while under the old system "a very few planters would have raised it, had the control of the funds and deposited the money in bank to be used as needed." Without contradicting the veracity of the latter statement, it is obvious that if $3,000,000 are divided among 10,000 heads of families, national prosperity must be greater than when the same $3,000,000 were in the hands of "a very few planters," as it was in times past, since the wants of 10,000 householders and their dependents, even, if ever so small, must be of sufficient magnitude to place a large proportion of this money in circulation, and the fear to trust the surplus to banks can be but a trifling and temporary national loss compared to the ownership of this vast sum by a "very few," since divided as it is among many, long hoarding is scarcely possible.

Another proof that cotton is not king, is evinced by the awakening of the South to the fact that no one industrial pursuit, very extensively carried on to the exclusion of all others, recounds to the permanent prosperity of a people. And, therefore, cordial invitations are extended to New England and British capitalists to locate in the cotton-growing States, and erect manufactories, and work up the raw material instead of transporting it abroad and returning it again, claiming that the South has as many advantages as a manufacturer as a producer, and to insure her prosperity, demands a diversity of industrial pursuits as well as resources. Doubtless an influx of capital and an enterprising immigration are, next to universal educational advantages, the greatest needs of the South. And though with the explosion of the theory that cotton is king, and other kindred ideas, social and industrial advancement are manifest, we venture the prediction that in this generation at least, capital and enterprise from the Northern States, will not inundate the South, whose social spirit is yet too hostile towards the "Yankee" element, which will more naturally seek new fields in the fertile West, where no deep-rooted prejudices exist, to be lived down and exhausted by the flight of the best years of a life time.

THE RAILROAD WAR.

In yesterday's issue we gave an article on the prospective war between two great East and West trunk roads—the Baltimore & Ohio and the Pennsylvania Company. Since the publication of our article we have seen and talked with a gentleman well versed in Railroad matters, and who has, briefly and tersely, given us explanations which we deem worthy of reproduction.

The war now waging, says the gentleman referred to, is not a war between rival corporations for control of east and west traffic, but a simple difference of authorities as to what is a legitimate profit on business done. Heretofore, the Pennsylvania Company, the Erie Company, and the New York Central Company have agreed on a tariff of rates between the East and the West, and all other roads—from Portland, Maine, to St. Paul, Minnesota,—have had to conform to that tariff. When the Baltimore & Ohio extended its lines and tapped the West, it made its own rates and demanded that the Erie, the Central, and the Pennsylvania Companies should conform to those rates; hence the present issue. The tariff now sought to be enforced by the Baltimore & Ohio Co. dates back many months; in fact, the Baltimore & Ohio Company is only seeking to carry out a tariff and a plan which for ten years have occupied the attention of nearly all the prominent railroad men in the United States and in the Canadas.

In 1864, says our informant, the Grand Trunk Railroad Company conceived the idea of establishing a steamship line from Portland to Liverpool, to carry Western products one way and emigrants the other. After an outlay of many thousands of dollars, the Grand Trunk project was abandoned. At a later period (in 1869) the Pennsylvania Company essayed to establish a similar line from Philadelphia to Liverpool, and with a similar object. It, too, has not proved a success. In 1870 the Baltimore & Ohio Company inaugurated the same project, commencing with three steamers, and steadily increased its business and facilities until now it gives full employment to nine steamships. It has enlisted the North German Lloyd interest in its behalf, and to-day is prepared to carry one-quarter of the entire American tonnage. In the words of the *Tribune* quoted yesterday, "it can deliver flour, grain and provisions on board the Liverpool steamer at Baltimore at rates that neither of its competitors can attempt."

So far, we give the important facts communicated by our railroad informant, and then return to the question uppermost in the minds of shippers and travelers: Is there anything in the past history of the Baltimore & Ohio Company which insures the public against a repetition of the odious monopoly which that Company (should it again get the power,) was wont to practice upon the people and the Government?

The public has no reason to complain of this sharp competition between the two great trunk lines, since it results to their interest, and may serve to demonstrate the ability of Railroads to materially reduce their rates without bankrupting their stock holders, especially in cases where Roads have been economically constructed and honestly managed. The Baltimore & Ohio Road now proposes to carry freights from Chicago to Boston and other New England cities at the following rates: First class, 65 cents; second class, 60 cents; third class, 50 cents, and special class, 30 cents per 100. As this Company can now reach Toledo via the Dayton & Michigan Road from Deshler, it is probable that a reduction of rates may be made from this point, affording special advantages to shippers

FARM PRODUCTS.

The New York *Mail* has been looking through the statistics furnished by the last census relating to agricultural products, and is quite astonished at the magnitude of the results attained and the progress made in drawing wealth from the soil. It gives the following as the progress made in the production of cereals during the past thirty years:

1843	615,735,077 bushels
1850	867,454,092 bushels
1860	1,238,048,947 bushels
1870	1,257,290,196 bushels

These figures are a little too large to be readily comprehended, but they show that the cereal products of the country more than doubled in quantity during the thirty years given. It is a fact worthy of note that the product of 1870 was an average of thirty-five bushels per head for each of our entire population—men, women and children—while the cereal product of Europe in 1868 averaged but sixteen bushels to the head. Hence, if the people of Europe raise just enough for their own consumption, the people of this country have twice as much as they can consume.

But, to show where the great bulk of these cereals are grown, let us take the quantity produced in the interior States north of the Ohio River, embracing the present States of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska:

1840	166,504,291 bushels
18[illegible]	1,581,006 bushels
186[illegible]	577,235,715 bushels
1870	812,055,481 bushels

The increase in these States during the thirty years was six fold—the product of 1870 being almost six times that of 1840. The compiler of these statistics estimates that this vast volume of products would weigh 21,000,000 tons, Allowing the extravagant estimate of 11,000,000 tons for home consumption, the 10,000,000 tons remaining, if ground into flour or meal and placed in barrels holding five bushels each, would require 80,000,000 barrels, and would fill 40,000 of the largest Erie canal boats, or 1,000,000 railway freight cars, each carrying ten tons.

These figures serve to show the present, and to indicate the future transportation necessities of the West. Whether facilities for carrying this produce to market at cheap rates, keep pace with the demands of the people, will depend very much upon action of Congress in improving the route by the Lakes and the St. Lawrence River, and the improvement of the Erie Canal by the State of New York.

SINGULAR SENTIMENTS.

M. VEUILLOT, the lay Pope of France, and who is reputed the most able ultramontane journalist in Europe, thus refers to the people of this country:

The United States might founder in the ocean for once for all, and the human race would suffer no loss thereby. Not a saint, not an artist, not a thinker has it produced, unless one may term thought the aptitude for twisting iron for the construction of freight trains. The priests who wear out their lives there can not create a civilization. They serve only to convey extreme unction to expiring races and to a few savages expatriated from Europe. Thus far there is no civilization in America, and as far as appearances go there never will be. In that part of it only where France acclimatized Catholicity is there any true evidence of life. Elsewhere brutality of demagogism destroys.

That kind of nonsense may be considered good reading and evidence of able journalism in France, but to any person in the least familiar with the facts, it would be difficult to condense a larger amount of gross ignorance and absurd assertions into so small a space.

☞ Those rebel archives cost the Government $75,000, and many persons thought the purchase a waste of money. Cushing would have given more than that amount for one of the letters, a few days since, could he have made the purchase.

☞ It is stated that President GRANT will build a residence in Washington, prior to his retirement from office, and make his permanent home in that city.

THE RAILROAD WAR.

For a number of years, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad enjoyed complete monopoly of the Washington City travel and trade. Finally, the Pennsylvania Company constructed a rival Road to the Capital, though not without very great opposition, and this has induced the Baltimore & Ohio to make [illegible] lines under the control of [illegible] Pennsylvania Company. It has [illegible] upon the struggle by a very great [illegible] its passenger and freight [illegible] thus compelling corresponding reductions on the rival lines. It claims great advantage in this fight, and shows no disposition to yield short of complete victory. Our readers will be interested in knowing the strength of the parties interested and their capacity for endurance in a struggle which strikes so directly at a vital point, hence we give below an extract from an article which appeared in the Chicago *Tribune*, evidently written by authority and under the supervision of the Baltimore & Ohio Company:

The public have been interested spectators of the fight between the Baltimore and Ohio and the Pennsylvania Central Railways, which has resulted in an extraordinary cheapening of freight and passenger fare between Chicago, Cincinnati and St. Louis on the one hand, and Pittsburg, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington on the other. The question is naturally asked, "Which can hold out longest?" To answer this question we must inquire which of them has the greater resources, and which is burdened with the smaller amount of liabilities, bearing in mind that the same rules which apply to the case of the Pennsylvania, apply also to the other great trunk lines between the West and the seaboard.

It is only necessary to group the present financial exhibits of the corporations which are mainly parallel and are competing for the same class of business. The table is instructive:

	Miles	Capital Stock.	Debts.	Total cap.
Roads, op'rated				
N. Y. Cen.	6-1	$80,925,000	$ 61,607,000	$142,532,000
N. Y. & Erie	732	85,536,910	37,757,979	123,293,889
Penn'sylv'a	1505	93,371,967	63,035,887	156,407,854
Bal. & Ohio	1101	167,111,000	101,987,087	269,098,087

During the year the New York Central and New York and Erie have had a severe struggle to meet their current obligations. The Pennsylvania Road obtained from the Legislature, last April, authority to increase its debt and capital stock by $36,000,000, and in October paid its dividend in scrip. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, in that same period, paid out of its own current and accumulated earnings a cash dividend of 10 per cent.; expended $10,000,000 cash in new rolling stock, bridges, steel tracks and new roads, reduced its indebtedness, and added $2,800,000 to its surplus fund. Discarding fractions, its gross earnings in the year were $15,500,000; expenses, $10,000,000; net earnings, $5,500,000. Of the year before the net earnings were 5,000,[illegible] Despite the extraordinary expenditure the company added $2,882,000 to its sur[illegible] fund, which, on the 1st of October, [illegible] amounted to $29,034,404. The company [illegible] a credit, at home and abroad, superior [illegible] that of any other railroad company in [illegible] United States. It does business on the cash principle. It buys and builds with its own money. It has now under construction the road through Ohio and Indiana to Chicago, which was progressing during the whole season of the panic, and will be completed here during 1874. Now compare this condition of business with that of the other roads.

The New York Central Company has to pay out of its net earnings interest and dividends on $106,000,000; the New York and Erie on $118,000,000; the Pennsylvania on $116,000,000, and the Baltimore & Ohio on $26,000,000. In addition, the latter Company has an invested surplus of $29,000,000, and the others have none. Despite the obstacles placed in its way by its rivals, it forms now one of the four great trunk lines from the West to the Atlantic. It is already able, even with a circuitous route, to carry passengers and freight from Chicago to the seaboard at a profit for less money than any of its rivals. It can deliver flour, grain and provisions on board the Liverpool steamer at Baltimore at rates that neither of its competitors, nor any other railroad built and operated on the watered stock basis, can attempt. If the New York Central, New York & Erie, and Pennsylvania roads cannot take passengers from Chicago to New York or Philadelphia for less than $20, or flour at less than $1.25 per barrel, and these rates are actually necessary to make a profit—it follows that the Baltimore & Ohio Road, having to pay dividends on but one-fourth the amount of debt and capital, can perform the same transportation at much less. Estimating the operating expenses on all the roads to be the same, and equaling two-thirds of the gross receipts, each of the three roads has to pay interest and dividends on four times the amount of capital and debt that the other road has to satisfy. Consequently, what is but living profit to them is so large a profit to the road doing business on a cash basis, that always carry for less rates, and compel them to run at a loss if competing for the same trade. Watered stock is a fraud, and the Baltimore & Ohio Road is the detected and exposed to expose it.

We see it stated that the Baltimore & Ohio Company are now making an effort to have the Maryland Legislature revoke the charter of the Pennsylvania Company. While the people will be pleased with the reduction of rates growing out of this war, they will not be so ready to approve the motive which prompts it. The Pennsylvania Company, or any other Company, have the right to construct Railroads, and powerful corporations cannot combat weaker ones, merely to cut off competition, with the approval of the people, who feel the need of more competition and less combination.

The present struggle will not, we hope, result in a consolidation of the interests of the rival lines, under any form. The foregoing statement can leave little doubt as to where the advantage lies in this contest, and the lesson which the facts present is an important one. The difference between watered and unwatered stock, in its effect upon the capacity of Railroads for furnishing cheap transportation, is clearly presented. Allowance must be made, of course, for the source of the article quoted, but the main facts stated are doubtless true.

The Baltimore & Ohio Company are at fault in having kept their rates at high figures when they had the field to themselves. Had they acted wisely then, no other Company could have been organized in opposition. As it was, the people suffered from a monopoly, rival Roads were constructed, and now the effort to destroy the rival lines, because they are rivals, will not meet with general approbation. We have always admired the general management of the Baltimore & Ohio Company's financial affairs, and we are prepared to back it up in any legitimate reduction of rates, prompted by a proper motive. We do not know that any serious harm can grow out of the present warfare, but we fear its result may be to entirely cut off competition and increase, rather than cripple, monopoly. The struggle is one of great [illegible] and general interest, and we endeavor to keep our readers [illegible] posted in its progress.

☞ Illinois Granges are starting off on the right track. They have made arrangements to manufacture their own ploughs at Millington. Let them encourage all branches of manufacturing business. It will pay.

CONCENTRATION OF CAPITAL.

Recent advices from monetary and commercial sources, East and West, confirm the predictions of business men, made at the beginning of the panic, that the era of speculation in railroads to the frontiers of civilization had ended, to be succeeded by another era of speculation in real estate in the commercial cities and trade, which, with already established business prosperity, afford safer and surer investments to the capitalist, with quicker and more certain profits than where new enterprises are inaugurated in the sparsely settled regions near the outposts, where agricultural and manufacturing interests are yet undeveloped; and that consequently capital for an indefinite period would seek investments in enterprising, rapidly growing cities, rather than in building up new towns in the Far West or South. That this reaction has already taken place is evident by the great improvement in the real estate market of Chicago, and other cities, where for the past few weeks the demand for business, residence and suburban property has been very good, much better, in fact, than at any time since the monetary crisis. The Chicago press speaks most hopefully of the encouraging change which has taken place in the real estate market of that city during the last few weeks, saying that there are undoubtedly more buyers in the market than for months previous and that many of them are capitalists from other localities, who have come thither for the purpose of investing, and that the real estate brokers have more memoranda of the wants of investors on their books now than they have had at any time for several months past. A large number of these inquiries are from capitalists who are desirous of buying business property at low prices, though the demand for first class residence and acre suburban property is by no means inconsiderable. Late sales of residence and suburban property, at an advance of from ten to twenty per cent. over the prices of last autumn, make a very favorable showing for the constant increasing value of real estate.

What is true of Chicago is also true of Toledo, whose growth has not been retarded by national financial troubles. Within the past month, capitalists from [illegible] localities, whose future [illegible] possible as ours, have visited [illegible] with a view of making investments in real estate, whose rise is certain, and which [illegible] the present development of the industrial resources of the city and its vicinity, small profits or losses upon investments made are out of the question.

☞ ALEXANDER AGASSIZ, the only son of the celebrated savan and naturalist, is said to have inherited his late father's genius, ability and taste for patient, persevering and thorough investigation. The Boston society of Natural History conferred upon him the honorary prize, for his investigations upon the echinoderms. The terms upon which the prize was given were that the investigations should extend over a period of five years, and their results to be published one year before the decisions of the judges, thereby leaving the award open to the searching analysis and criticism of competitors. The fact that his work successfully passed the ordeal, at once gives him an eminent position among the naturalists of the day. In the death of his gifted wife, from over-exertion at the death-bed of his father, Mr. AGASSIZ has suffered a double bereavement, in which he has the sincere sympathy of the entire nation.

☞ Washington City undertook to compel the National Woman Suffrage Association to take out a license before holding a convention. Miss ANTHONY, the Convention informed the police authorities of that City that she would submit to fine and imprisonment rather than pay for the privilege of visiting the Capitol for the purpose of petitioning Congress. Vice President WILSON was present at the Convention and made the following remarks:

I wish simply to say that I am under imperative orders to make no speeches on any subject. I will add, however, that twenty years ago I came to the conclusion that my wife, my mother, and my sisters were as much entitled to suffrage as myself, and I have not changed my mind since. [Loud applause.]

☞ The Chicago *Journal* says: "An effort is being made in Minnesota to secure the taxation of church property. Some plausible reasons are advanced why this should not be done, but none of them are of sufficient weight to entitle them to much consideration. The exemption of church property from taxation had its origin in countries where Church and State are combined. Churches are not taxed there, just as court-houses, jails and other property are not here. In this country, Church and State being separate, church property should certainly be liable to some degree of taxation."

☞ Congress seems disposed to take the sound side of the currency question and cramp the business energies of the country to the greatest possible extent, regardless of the earnest appeals and imperative necessities of the people. There is one consolation left, for the masses: the time is near when they can settle with their servants, and those who have proved recreant to the best interests of their constituents may be made to understand that the power rests with the people.

☞ Mr. A. A. THOW, of the New York Chamber of Commerce, has been before the House Committee on Banking and Currency, to testify respecting financial matters. He thought specie payments desirable, and submitted a plan therefor, but believed specie payment at present impracticable. He consequently advocates free banking and more currency.

☞ There is a rumor at Washington that SECRETARY RICHARDSON has tendered his resignation, to take effect from [illegible] 1st, though about [illegible] for a resumption proposition [illegible] brought forward a little too [illegible] merely to be of advantage to him.

THE NEW SALARY BILL.

The following is the full text of the new Salary bill which was passed in the Senate on the 12th inst., as a substitute for the bill from the House, with a list of the yeas and nays on its final passage:

"An Act Repealing the Increase in Salaries of Members of Congress and other Officers.

"BE IT ENACTED, &c., That so much of the act of March 30, 1873, entitled 'an act making appropriations for the Legislative, Executive and Judicial expenses of the Government for the year ending June 30, 1874,' as provide for the increase of compensation of public officers and employes, whether members of Congress, delegates or others, except the President of the United States, and Justices of the Supreme Court, be, and the same is, hereby repealed; the salaries, compensations, and allowances of all said persons, except as aforesaid, shall be fixed by the law in force at the time of the passage of said act, provided that no mileage be allowed for the first session of the Forty-Third Congress; that all moneys appropriated as compensation to members of the Forty-second Congress in excess of the mileage and allowances fixed by law at the commencement of said Congress, and which shall not have been drawn by the members of said Congress, respectively, or which, having been drawn, have been returned in form to the United States, are hereby covered into the Treasury of the United States, and are declared to be the moneys of the United States, absolutely the same as if they had never been appropriated as aforesaid."

The yeas and nays being ordered, the bill was passed as above reported by the following vote:

Yeas—Senators Allison, Anthony, Bayard, Bogy, Boreman, Boutwell, Buckingham, Cameron, Carpenter, Chandler, Clayton, Conkling, Crozier, Davis, Dorsey, Edmonds, Fenton, Ferry (Mich.), Frelinghuysen, Goldthwait, Hamilton (Me.), Hamlin, Hitchcock, Howe, Ingalls, Logan, McCreery, Merriman, Mitchell, Morrill (Me.), Morrill (Vt.), Morton, Oglesby, Patterson, Pratt, Ramsey, Robertson, Sargent, Saulsbury, Schurz, Stockton, Sumner, Wadleigh, West, Windom and Wright, 50.

Nays—Senators Brownlow, Conover, Flanagan, Gordon, Lewis, Norwood, Sprague, and Tipton—8.

Senator Cooper announced that he paired with Senator Cragin who would have voted for the bill, and he (Cooper) against it.

Not voting—Alcorn, Ames, Dennis, Ferry (Ct.), Gilbert, Hamilton (Texas), Johnston, Jones, Kelley, Ransom, Stuart and Thurman.

In the House on the 13th inst., the Senate Salary bill was taken up, when Mr. Hale, the mover of the original House bill, moved to concur in the action of the Senate. Attempts to amend were made by Butler and Dawes, but previous question was seconded by the House, and the Senate bill was passed by a vote of 226 yeas to 25 nays.

The House votes in the negative were as follows: Messrs. Albert, Averill, Barr, Clymer, Cox, Crossland, Hayes, Hynes, Kendall, Kelly, Lamison, Morey, Negley, Platt, Randall, Saanks, Sloss, Standeford, Storm, Stowells, Todd, Waddell, White, Whitely, and Williams (Ind.)

The bill has been signed by the President, and is now a law.

☞ Pennsylvania acknowledges the incompetency of her school teachers, but does not like to be told of it by States where, until very recently, school teachers were scarcely known. The Pittsburg *Commercial* thus states the case:

Pennsylvania is neither ignorant of her educational or other imperfections, nor ashamed to acknowledge them. She possesses the humility, as well as the energy of greatness. Unless, indeed, this were the case, she would hardly have made her late frank confession as to the inadequate practical preparation of a large number of the public school teachers of the Commonwealth for the successful discharge of the duties of their profession. But when, upon the basis of this courageous acknowledgment, the press of semi-civilized Missouri undertakes to belittle the educational system of this State, it may not be amiss to remind our critics that one of the principal reasons of the defectiveness complained of, consists in the fact that so many of our best and most accomplished teachers have gone out from among us as educational missionaries to Missouri and other similarly benighted States of the Union, where they are at present diligently engaged in trying to diffuse among the young a better instruction and an ampler intelligence than any which the elders of those regions have ever known or ever will be likely to possess.

☞ The Wilmington *Republican*, published in the district represented in Congress by JOHN Q. SMITH, gives the following explanation of the manner in which Messrs. GARFIELD, PARSONS, SHERWOOD, and SMITH voted on the salary bill:

The substitute was agreed to, against the vote of every Republican from Ohio, but after it was accepted came the question of its engrossment. On this question the Ohio delegation divided, Messrs. Garfield, Parsons, Sherwood, and Smith voting for its engrossment, and the other Republicans against it. On this question depended the life of the bill, and to defeat the engrossment was to kill the bill. The Ohio members who voted to engross it did so that they might have the bill recommitted under instructions to amend, but the previous question was moved, and against this all these members voted, but it was sustained by a majority of one.

☞ Col R. E. WITHERS, the Democratic nominee for U. S. Senator from Virginia, is an open advocate of the re-enslavement of the black race. He defeated HUNTER who accepts the freedom of the colored people as an irrevocable fact, but demands that their former owners be compensated for the negroes who were liberated by the Emancipation Proclamation of President LINCOLN. Democracy claims to be a unit, and we suppose there is no difference between Virginia Democracy and that of any other State.

☞ Senator SHERMAN stated that the United States has more money to-day, per capita, than either England or France. Either the Senator is sadly mistaken of statisticians are greatly at fault. According to well authenticated information, in 1872 the circulation in the United States was $18.55 per capita, in England, in 1868, it was $19.53, and in France, in the same year, it was $25.

☞ We think members of Congress are right in demanding retrenchment in every other department of Government expenditures, before cutting down appropriations for river and harbor improvements. It is true, there are many applications for such expenditures which are noteworthy of notice, but wherever the interests of commerce and cheap transportation demand further improvements, Congress should unhesitatingly provide for them.

☞ The uproar here with which the House of Representatives passed a bill for the repeal of the bankrupt law, serves to show the impropriety of acting upon a law which affects so many interests in all sections of the country with such modern haste. Since the action of the House, from all parts of the country has come a perfect [illegible] against [illegible] and [illegible] more generally favorable sentiment, but no repeal.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE TEXAS QUESTION.

Although President GRANT has thus far been unable to please himself, his constituents and the Senate in the appointment of Chief Justice, he has been more fortunate in his action regarding the political troubles of Texas and has reason to congratulate himself, inasmuch as his ruling meets the universal approbation of all true patriots, who have the sincere welfare of their country at heart, and demonstrates the wisdom of an executive who conscientiously endeavores to act in accordance with the peaceful sentiment of the country and that of an enlightened and free people. In declining to enter in, or take part in the political troubles of Texas and refusing to furnish United State troops to enforce the decision of its Supreme Court, in reminding Gov. DAVIS that the election law had received his approval, and that both political parties had conducted a campaign under it; and in making the suggestion that it would be better to yield to the verdict of the people, he has shown that freedom from sectional bias and mere partisan influence which ever distinguishes the just judge, the wise legislator, and the true patriot, from the narrow-minded and selfish demagogue and party leader. Although the present party in power have the technical legal advantage, a resort to arms and bloodshed would but be a prolongation of its rule for a few weeks or months, provided they succeeded in maintaining their position, which in the end would result in their certain destruction. Therefore, the advice of the Executive that they abandon the unwise position which they have assumed, and yield to the will of the people, is as timely as it is wise and prudent, since by so doing public confidence in them will be restored, and their hope for power in the future would most effectually be lost if violent means were resorted to for preventing the assembling of the new Legislature.

☞ At the reunion at the residence of Hon. HORATIO KING, in Washington City, on Saturday night last, Hon. H. S. FOOTE delivered an address on Statesmanship, in which he gave the following as the standard of the highest order of statesmen:

It seems to me to be simply absurd for any man whatever to expect to have accorded to him the highest honors of statesmanship who does not find himself inwardly conscious of perfect integrity of heart; whose dealings with his fellow-men have not uniformly borne the stamp of uprightness and honor; who has it not in his power to look back confidently upon his whole past career, both in public and in private life, without being constrained to experience the paralyzing weight of remembered iniquity; who does not properly appreciate the true dignity of his kind, and who is not borne up and sustained amid all the labors and dangers of a public career by the inspiring hope that he will at last be recognized by the world at large, and by the best and wisest of his own countrymen in particular, as the benefactor of the age and nation which he would seem almost to have lived alone to bless and to honor. Genuine statesmanship, as I understand the term, implies the constant cherishment of a fervent love of virtue and of virtuous men; a just respect for all useful learning and ability; a capacity to discriminate promptly and equitably between shallow and vaunting self-sufficiency and solid practical good sense, which is always accompanied with a decorous modesty; and since war is by far the greatest of all earthly evils, and peace, amity, and concord the most precious of terrestrial blessings, I hold no man to be a statesman who plunges his country into useless and unnecessary conflict with foreign powers, or who aids, however remotely, in instigating the shedding of blood upon the soil of his own country in domestic conflict.

☞ HENRY C. BOWEN declares he has not sold the *Independent*, and BOWEN ought to know as much about that as any one, since he is its owner; though the Beecher-Tilton scandal has left him in such a position that corroborative evidence may be necessary to convince the incredulous that the *Independent* is s'bowen into it for BOWEN.

☞ Here is a tribute to one whose business in life was to please the tastes of epicures:

"Underneath this crust
Lies the mouldering dust
Of Eleanor Batchelor Shoven.
Well versed in the arts
Of pies, custards and tarts,
And the lucrative trade of the oven.
When she lived long enough
She made her last puff,
And now she doth lie,
And make her dirt pie,
In hopes that her crust may be raised."

☞ The Postmaster General recommends the repeal of the law providing for the payment of postage on newspapers in the counties in which they are published.

RAILWAYS.

Railroad Earnings.

The New York *Financial Chronicle* publishes a statement showing the earnings of most of the principle Roads of the country for the month of December last, as compared with the receipts for the corresponding month in 1872. It will be observed that the receipts for the past month show an encouraging increase over the business of November, indicating a general improvement in business throughout the country:

RAILROAD EARNINGS IN DECEMBER.

NAMES.	1873.	1872.
Atlantic & Great Western	$[illegible]	$[illegible]
Atlantic & Pacific	91,851	97,705
Burlington, C. R. & Minn.	118,946	81,021
Central Pacific	1,074,750	1,176,962
Chic., Danville & Vincennes	51,808	49,449
Chic. & Northwestern	1,614,502	859,173
Clev., Col., Cin. & Ind.	394,612	356,743
Erie	1,665,129	1,437,281
Lake Shore & Mich. Southern	1,240,181	1,189,440
Milwaukee & St. Paul	843,200	513,787
Pacific of Missouri	340,078	287,518
St. L. Alton & T. H. (Main)	90,094	100,618
do do (Branches)	28,803	27,779
St. Louis & Iron Mountain	151,600	125,008
St. L., Kansas City & Nrthn.	224,109	241,845
St. Louis & Southeastern	70,480	56,345
Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw	53,625	50,851
T., W. & W.	441,272	432,205
Total	88,559,955	$7,581,558

*Three weeks only of December in each year.

The net increase in the earnings of these Roads for the year 1873 over those of 1872, was $7,537,053, as shown by the following table:

	1873.	1872.
Atlantic & Gr't. Western	$[illegible]	$[illegible]
Atlantic & Pacific	1,271,310	1,401,27[illegible]
Burlington, Rapids & Minn	1,188,049	965,050
Central Pacific	15,000,000	12,794,209
Chi. Dan. & V'cennes	626,788	6[illegible]
Chicago & Northwestern	13,540,181	12,052,961
Clev. Col. Cin. & Ind.	4,764,[illegible]	4,[illegible]
Erie	16,021,781	16,[illegible]
L. S. & M. S.	19,[illegible]	17,[illegible]
Milwaukee & St. Paul	9,046,116	6,957,770
Pacific of Missouri	3,871,866	3,502,[illegible]
St. L. Alton & T.

To Our Correspondents.

Questions for this department of the BLADE should be written plainly, and on one side of the sheet only. They should be kept separate from communications regarding subscriptions, books, specimen copies, and other matters of a purely business character. The latter either should be written on a separate sheet, or with a blank line dividing them from the questions. The full name and address should accompany each letter.

TO MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS.—During the past few weeks we have had frequent enquiries for the Quaker Reaper and Mower; Rubber Stamps for stamping cards and merchandise; Newfoundland Dogs; Patent Folding Lap-boards; Family Knitting Machines; Small Machines for making Aerated Bread; Cider Mill and Press; Ditching Machines cutting four feet wide and four feet deep; Machines for Sawing off Stumps; Stump Pullers; Mirrors; Moldings for Pictures, and Chromos. We make this list, which is only a partial one, merely that we may suggest to manufacturers and dealers that the unparalled circulation of the BLADE, especially in the Western States, brings the various articles advertised in it to a wider publicity than any other single means at their disposal. It is hardly necessary to add that the man who has an article for sale will find very little trouble in disposing of it where a demand already exists.

J. B. F., Rochester, Ind.—Send for a copy of the *Herald Almanac* of 1873. Address "New York Herald," New York City.

PIONEER, Williams Co., O.—We do not understand how you could fail to have seen our answers to the same questions. Manuscript for the press should be written on one side of the paper only. It should then be folded, not rolled, and sent by mail pre-paid. If the author wishes it returned in case of non-acceptance, he must send stamps for that purpose. A good, short story is always desirable, but a writer without reputation can hardly expect to be paid for his work until his name has become familiar to readers, and until he has worked off some of the first rawness. We are glad to have contributions from our readers on any and all subjects. We can use articles on household matters in the FARM JOURNAL, and we propose opening a department there for the children.

R. S. C., Dayton, O.—We are aware that your letter has been here for two months and is unanswered yet, but what can we do? We often have to search through twenty books to find an answer to a question, and we have hundreds of questions and other labors to attend to as well as this.

W. H. W., New Bremen, Ill.—The custom of executing criminals on Friday is a very old one, and we have no data at hand to explain *why* Friday was always the day chosen. Perhaps the fact that Friday, in ancient times was considered an unlucky day, or a bad day led judges to select it as the proper day upon which to execute sentence of death.

M. R. M.—There is a plan for a handsome and cheap cottage in this month's FARM JOURNAL; probably others will be given during the year. The price is 75 cents per year. Yes, it is published by Locke & Jones, Toledo, O.

BRAZILIAN, Bowling Green, Ind.—The prizes named with the books are for a single subscription for the papers, &c. If you will look at the book offer you will see it is very plain. Yes, you ought to fill any position as copyist.

READER OF THE BLADE, Berkshire, O.—We think 'Practical Perspective' would not be found to answer your purpose. You say you want drawings of masonry, then "Drawing for Stonemasons" just the book for you?

A. B. C. Middleton, Dane Co., Wis.—For books on harness work, &c., write to Henry Carey Baird, Philadelphia, Penn. He publishes books on practical subjects and books that are of value to every tradesman. You can rely on him.

JOHN SMITH, Fostoria, Ohio.—We examine all manuscript sent us, if it is worthy of a place in our columns we use it, if not, and stamps accompany it, it is returned. We have answered these questions so often we think it time these points were pretty generally known. If an article is good enough to compete with those furnished us by our paid contributors we pay for it.

SUBSCRIBER, Montrovia, Kansas.—We have given the history of the Salary Grab over and over, and cannot consent to afflict our readers with it again.—The Latin language sprang from the country of Latium, the central region of Italy. The progress of the language was arrested, and the decline began with the Christian Era. If you will state what branch of Philosophy, we will answer your question. It is too vague in its present form.

U. W. H., Ada, Ohio.—In the ADVERTISER FARM JOURNAL, published by Locke & Jones, Toledo, Ohio, there will be many hints and articles that would be of great benefit to you. Potatoes require a rich loam, neither too wet or too dry. Salt, ashes, and crushed bones are excellent manures. When fresh manures are used, it should be scattered broadcast and plowed in. The seed chosen should be such as experience has proven is best adapted to the soil, in saying which kinds we should plant, it would be assuming responsibility we would rather shirk. You had much better ask your neighbors, and be guided by their experience until you are able to decide for yourself.

H. T., Fairbury, Ill.—We are as much pleased to answer your questions as you are to ask them. 1st. The paper spoken of has not been published for several years. 2d. Senator Sumner has no children. 3d. We will send the BLADE, LOCKE'S MONTHLY, and any book in List 1, for $3.25. If you will tell us what book it is you would like in List 4, we can answer your question. You will see by referring to the paper that the books in that list are all not one price. We are sure you would like the FARM JOURNAL, as it is filled with household news, receipts, etc., and costs but 75 cents year. Your writing is very plain.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.—The National Soldiers' Home is located at Dayton, Ohio. For a copy their rules and regulations, address a letter to "Superintendent of Soldiers' Home, Dayton, Ohio." [illegible] will tell you where the [illegible] o have it changed to another agent.

A. A. A., Corry, Pa.—We do not think there is any such machine made as you inquire for.

W. H. H., Warners, N. Y.—The District of Columbia has a territorial form of government, and we suppose it would be admissible to say "the Territory of Columbia," though, for our part, we prefer to call things by their established names. There are ten Territories in the United States, including the District of Columbia. The President appoints the Governors of the Territories, and the National Congress legislates for their internal affairs.

D. A., Centre, Iowa.—The law of Moses was in a book, as the Bible frequently mentions the book of the law, and Moses when dying commanded that the book should be placed in the tabernacle. The laws now called the Mosaic laws are the laws made by Moses.

LEO, Anna, O.—An ordinary common school education would include a knowledge of reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, grammar, geography, and the history of the United States. Philosophy and geometry may be taught in the common schools if the teacher is competent and the trustees willing. The United States draws most of its supply of coffee from South America and the West Indies. "Should a man buy his county paper if he can get a better one elsewhere?" If he can afford it a man should always keep himself posted about his own county matters, but where he can have but one paper our advice is, "get the best."

J. T. P., Civil Bend, Mo.—The first man who was condemned to suffer death by hanging of whom we have record was William Marise, a pirate, in the year 1241. Pennsylvania and Michigan have abolished capital punishment.

F. C., Mich.—After complimenting the BLADE, asks a few questions which we take pleasure in answering. 1. Although it is a very great crime to buy off witnesses and to hire men to swear falsely, still we think it would hardly be as heinous as committing murder. 2. It is not "necessary for a man to take an oath in order to be benevolent," but the benevolent societies have been compelled to bind men by oaths; not to harm others, but to protect themselves from imposters and swindlers. 3. We have no doubt clergymen are like the rest of mankind, and each one acts up to the best light he has.

R. B. FULTON, Riverton, Neb.—Your letter was published last week and you have our thanks for the information given our readers. We would be glad to hear from you again at any time, but in writing please do not crowd your lines so closely.

N. H. H. Chelsea, M.—From the best information we can get you are not entitled to a pension.

A SUBSCRIBER says. "While a soldier in the late war I lost the hearing of one ear and had my eyes badly injured by small pox. Am I entitled to a pension? And how shall I proceed to get it?" We think you are entitled to a pension. Make your application to your nearest Pension Agent and then go before the District Pension Surgeon for examination.

G. W. F. Reed's Mills, O.—The three best California papers that we now have in mind are the *Alta Californian*, independent in politics, and published at San Francisco; the Sacramento *Union*, Republican, published at Sacramento, and the Stockton *Herald*, Independent, published at Stockton. There are the three largest cities in the State. "Will they send sample copies free?" We think they will. "How long will 'Lucas' continue the 'Rocky Mountain' letters?" They were finished in December. If there is anything special you want to know about his trip, drop him a line care of the TOLEDO BLADE.

L. E. R., Dayton, O.—You will see that your question about "Lucas" has been already answered. We hope our readers understand that "Richard Grant," who wrote the story of "Martin Woolson" in the January number of LOCKE'S MONTHLY, and has a story in the February number of the same, is their old friend "Lucas," and he intends to write for the MONTHLY during the year '74.

T. B. S. Livermore.—The population of Marysville, Marshall county, Kansas, as given in the census of 1870, was 1,025. As to whether there is a church there we cannot say. Drop a line to the Postmaster at that place, and we have no doubt he will answer the question.

PADDY MILES' BOY.—We know nothing of the man you inquire about, but would say on general principles we do not put much faith in that class of practitioners. You ask, "Can a man be held responsible if he advertises a cure for certain diseases, himself believing the remedy to be good, and it should not prove reliable?" No. "Will he have to obtain a license?" No.

NETTIE.—The time of the death of the patient decides as to the pension. If you will let us know what the date of the death is, we can then answer your question.

C. S., Sturgis, Michigan, wants to know the difference between a King and an Emperor. What [illegible] a king [illegible] chief ruler; a [illegible] vested [illegible] supreme authority over a nation, tribe or country. And an Emperor as the sovereign of an Empire which is supposed to contain many tribes or countries.

W. S., Toledo, Ohio.—We would not like to answer your question. You had better consult a good lawyer.

FLORENCE, R. S., Potter County, Penn.—The Mss. you say you sent us last March, we have no recollection of ever receiving. "The story of a Pin," is not up to the standard required for our columns.

ABOUT NORTHERN MICHIGAN.—In our issue of Jan. 15th, in answer to a correspondent, we advised him not to leave the place where he was to go to Northern Michigan to farm. A subscriber at Owasso, Michigan, writes us there is good farm lands in his county, and thinks our advice was not good. While we agree with N. B. A. about his county, we still stand by the advice given our correspondent, and can hardly see how N. B. A. could apply our remarks to his part of the state.

J. W. C., Cleveland, O.—If such book is to be had you will get it by addressing Henry Carey Baird, Philadelphia, Penn.

H. W. C., Osakis.—We fear there is something wrong about the concern you enquire for, and would advise great caution in dealing with it.

DANIEL BOONE, Eldridge, Kan.—The bride stands on the left of the [illegible] during the ceremony of marriage.

[illegible] fish books would be more valuable than ours.

C. M. W., Shepherdstown, Penn.—We have never seen it charged that Shakespeare was under the influence of liquor when he wrote his works. There are cases of men who resorted to the use of all subjects to increase their inspirations, but we would rather not give names.

E. W. H., Diana, N. Y.—Write to Frank Leslie, New York, and ask him to send you a copy of his "Boys and Girls Weekly," and to "Publishers of Young Folks' News, Philadelphia, Penn, and to "Publishers Youth's Companion," Boston, Mass., for copies of their papers, and then decide for yourself which you like best.

R. D. W., College Springs, Iowa.—Pittman's Phonography is published in New York, price $1. Address B. Pittman, Cincinnati, Ohio. The other book we never heard of.

[illegible] G. (no address).—So far as we know it is all right.

S. C. (no address) asks "the address of Mr. Staibuck, a patentee of a machine for cutting tile drains." We do not know it.

E. R. G., Defiance, Ohio.—Write to H. T. Cook & Co., Toledo, Ohio.

J. H.—We consider the concern named very doubtful.

A. H. P. Brooklyn, Pa.—We think Shearman's Telegraph College a good one, and have no reason to doubt but the proprietor will deal [illegible] up to [illegible] things.

[illegible] sephus. It is in one volume.—The question was answered a few weeks ago.

N. B. C. Delta, O.—There are unoccupied Government lands in Mich. Land offices are in Detroit and East Saginaw. Address "Register U. S. Land Office" at either place.

W. W., Fairport, DeKalb County, Mo.—We would gladly accommodate you, but we have only one copy, and must keep that for reference. Write to John H. Klippart, Columbus, Ohio; he may possibly have some extra copies.

E. K., Fairfield, (no State.)—There is no reduction made on books to clubs.

MRS. MARY M., C. (no town.)—The lines "Christmas Eve," are not quite up to our standard, and are declined.

J. A., Loganville, Sauk County Wisconsin.—Cannot use "Rods," but think you could do better if you tried. Write us a good descriptive letter of your part of the country, like the Nebraska letter a week ago.

C. E. W., Chehanse, Ill.—The sweet potato requires a sandy soil. The sprouts are usually started in a hot-bed. The ground is plowed as for an ordinary potato crop, but not deeply, then furrowed out with a one-horse plow, three feet each way. [illegible] a little [illegible] of horse manure in [illegible] at each intersection of the furrows, and well covered up. [illegible] soon when ready to [illegible] plants. The manure should be applied freely and be of good quality.

C. D., Wyanet, Ills.—Your son was entitled to a pension during his life. You had better put the matter into the hands of a good, reliable attorney, or if you know of none write to T. W. Tallmadge, Columbus, O., and state the case to him.

RAILWAYS AND CANALS.

Report of the House Committee on Inter-State Commerce.

Mr. McCrary, Chairman of the Committee on Railways and Canals on the 20th inst., submitted to the House of Representatives a report on the House bill to regulate commerce by railroads among the several States. The report says:

"The Committee have had the same question under consideration, and report the accompanying amendment thereto, in the nature of a substitute, and recommend its passage.

"In the judgment of the Committee, the measure of legislation now proposed is so important as to make proper a statement in the form of a bill to the House of some of the principal grounds which, it is believed, not only justify but demand its adoption. Without repeating in detail the provisions of the bill, it is enough for present purposes to say that it asserts the right and duty of Congress to regulate inter-State commerce as carried on by railroads, and prescribes as one of the regulations thereof that the charges of persons engaged in such commerce for the carrying of freight and passengers shall in all cases be fair and reasonable. Of the details of the bill we do not speak here, suffice it to say that their purpose is—and we think them well adopted to it—to adopt and enforce, under suitable penalties, as one of the rules or regulations concerning the commerce carried on by Railroads among States, the taking of no more than a fair and reasonable toll or compensation. Before any discussion of details, it is necessary to consider and determine, first, whether the end thus sought can be attained by a constitutional act of Congress, and secondly whether, if constitutional, it is expedient.

"First, the Constitutional question: Among the powers expressly conferred upon Congress by section VIII, article I. of the Constitution gives the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States and with Indian tribes. In considering the question whether under this provision, Congress has the power to pass the bill reported, it will be necessary to enquire as to the nature and extent of the power conferred by this provision upon Congress. It will not be deemed that this clause of the Constitution confer upon congress by express words the power to legislate upon the general subject of the regulation of commerce among the several States. It is not a negative provision; it does not declare what power Congress shall not have; it is not merely prohibitory, it is affirmative. It declares that Congress shall have power, etc. In order to show that this provision of the Constitution authorizes Congress to pass the bill reported, it is necessary to establish the following propositions: 1. That the commerce among the several States which may be regulated by Congress includes the commerce carried from State to State by Railroads. 2. That to regulate the charge for carrying freight and passengers upon inter-State Railroads so as to limit to that is fair reasonable, [illegible] is [illegible] regulate such commerce." In support of the first proposition, the Committee cite Judge Bedford on the Law of Railroads, the opinion of the Supreme Court delivered by Chief Justice Marshall in the case of Gibbons vs. Ogden, Judge Cooley on "Constitutional Limitations," the opinion of the Supreme Court, delivered by Justice Miller, in the case of Grey vs. The Clinton Bridge Company, and reported by the American Law Register, January, 1868, and a recent decision of the Supreme Court in the case of the State freight tax, 15 Wallace, 232. The report goes on to say that it is by no means important in order to establish the power of Congress to pass a bill reported, that it should be made to appear that the powers of Congress over inter-State commerce is exclusive. The power is ample, whether it be exclusive or not, but it seems to the Committee that the cases cited are conclusive of the question, and leave no doubt that the power of Congress is exclusive. The authorities cited leave no room for doubt concerning the power of Congress to regulate that commerce among the several States which is now carried on by means of Railroads. They establish conclusively that the power of Congress extends to all commerce which concerns more than one State, and [illegible] it necessarily includes the carrying of freight and passengers from a point in one State to a point in another State. It matters not [illegible] which is beyond the reach of any single State, because not completely internal within any one State.

The Committee then proceeds to the next or second proposition, relative to regulating tolls, &c., and in its support cites Chief Justice Marshall in Gibbons vs. Ogden. The question is not whether such regulation is reasonable or unreasonable, proper or improper, expedient or inexpedient, but simply whether it is a regulation. If it prescribes a rule to be followed in carrying on commerce, then it is a regulation of commerce. That it does prescribe such a rule is plain. The rule here prescribed as that in carrying on commerce upon Railroads between points in the different States, reasonable rates may be charged, and not more. The power of Congress upon the subject has no limitation, other than those prescribed in the Constitution itself. If the opinion referred to gives the true meaning of the Constitution, of which there can be no doubt, then the power of Congress in matters of Controlling and regulating inter-State commerce is co-extensive with the power of the States over their completely internal commerce; and if power of a State over its own commerce is for any reason less than "plenary," then the power of Congress within its sphere is necessarily greater than that of such State, for the power of Congress can be limited only by the terms of the Constitution of the United States. It can hardly be claimed, however, at this day, that a State has no power to fix or limit charges on Railroads within its territory. That they have such power is now generally conceded. The power of the State over Railroad commerce within its limits is not derived from the fact that Railroads are chartered by the State, but it is derived from the fact that Railroads are public highways, and therefore necessarily subject to legislative control. In the recent case of Olcott vs. the Supervisors, 16 Wallace, 678, the Supreme Court of the United States says that "Railroads, though constructed by private corporation and owned by them, are public highways." Very early the question arose whether a State's right of eminent domain could be exercised by private corporations created for the purpose of constructing a Railroad. Clearly it could not, unless taking land for such a purpose by such an agency is taking land for public use, the right of eminent domain nowhere justify the taking of property for private use, yet it is a doctrine universally accepted that a State Legislature may authorize a private corporation to take land for the construction of a road, by making compensation to the owners. What else does all history say, but that building a railroad, though to be built by a private corporation, is an act done for a public use, and the reason why for public use is, that such road is a highway, whether made by the Government itself or by an agency of corporations, or by individuals, when they obtain their power to construct from a Legislative grant. A number of decisions of State Courts, to the same effect, are here referred to, one of them as follows: "Though the ownership of a railroad is private, the use is public. So turnpikes, bridges, ferrys and canals, although made by individuals under public grants, or by companies, are regarded as public by juries. The right to erect tolls or charge freights is granted as a service to the public. The ownership may be private companies, but they are compellable to permit the public to use their wares. In arguments against the validity of the Illinois law upon this subject, and made in behalf of the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company, a proposition was laid down that common carriers, acting under a charter or without one, are alike liable for any abuse of the public in their charges, (see argument of Beckwith in report of Illinois Commissioners for 1872, and the authorities fully sustain this proposition. The authorities upon the subject are numerous and uniform, and they leave no doubt as to the right to limit by law the charges of common carriers to such as shall be reasonable, for they show clearly that such a law is simply declaratory of common law itself. It will be observed that the question of the power of Congress to create or charter a corporation to operate a line of commerce from State to State, and to exercise the right of eminent domain, is not involved in the passage of the bill reported. It is, however, well settled by the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States that Congress may charter a corporation, which is a necessary or proper instrument for carrying into effect any of the powers of the General Government. If, therefore, Congress should deem it necessary in the exercise of the power expressly conferred to regulate commerce among the several States—to charter new lines of Railroads or Canals as Channels for such commerce—its power to do so would seem beyond question.

The Committee next proceeded to consider the question of expediency. After a general discussion of the question of transportation by rail in all its bearings, the report concludes as follows: "When it is remembered that about 26,000,000 tons of freight were carried by the great through lines in the year 1872, probably one-third of which was Western products, it will at once be seen how important and how vital to the interests and rights of the people it is that some other interest and some power other than the combined interest and power of these great monopolies, should be invoked in the regulation of these charges. We assume, therefore, that this commerce by railroad should be controlled and regulated by law. Of course, laws which shall secure this regulation and control must be either National laws or State laws, or both. It has been claimed that State legislation is of itself sufficient, but a little reflection will show that this is an error. Your Committee are not disposed to recommend the slightest encroachment by the Federal Government on the rightful domain of State legislation, and we say distinctly that in so far as a remedy for evils can be found in local or State [illegible] to that extent, remedy should be found in that direction, but the proposition that inter-State communication cannot be controlled and regulated by State laws, is too plain for argument. The great trunk lines, or through lines, as they are called, must be regulated by National law, or not at all. They make contracts to carry freights from the Missouri River to the Atlantic, and even sometimes from one ocean to the other, without a change of cars. In the transaction of their business they make no note of State lines, though they may be chartered by some one or all of the States whose territory they traverse, but they are to all intents and purposes one line, operating in and through many States. We have already seen that any State law attempting to regulate commerce upon such lines as these, would be unconstitutional and void, because it would be an attempt by the State to exercise the power to regulate commerce among the several States, which is confined by the Constitution exclusively to Congress. (See State freight cases, 17 Wallace, 232; Crandell vs. Nevada, 6 Wallace, 35; Gibbons vs. Ogden, 9 Wheaton, 12.) But aside from its unconstitutionality, such legislation would be ineffectual for other and very apparent reasons. Let us suppose that the commerce to be regulated extends over [illegible] from Council Bluffs, Iowa, to Boston, Massachusetts, and passing through [illegible] States of Iowa, Illinois, Indiana [illegible], Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. How can any rule or regulation for carrying on commerce upon this line be enacted or enforced by State authority? If we are to admit that one rule may apply in one State, and a different rule in another, a dozen different and conflicting rules might result. If some of the States should pass no law upon the subject, what is to hinder a Railroad Company from fixing its own rules and arranging its own prices for carrying freight over the territory of such States? Surely, it will not be pretended that a statute of Iowa can regulate the rights and duties of common carriers in the State of Pennsylvania. But again, the most conclusive of all considerations upon the subject is the fact that if the regulation of those long lines belong to the States alone, they may increase as well as diminish the charges of these carriers, and may thus discriminate in favor of their own people and against those of other States. Again, if the laws of a dozen different States are to be applied as a regulation of the conduct of a carrier, in the transportation of a single cargo, such questions as these must arise: What State shall enforce its regulations? To how many penalties shall a carrier be subjected? [illegible] how many Courts shall be [illegible] And finally, if obedience [illegible] one State is found [illegible] laws of another, [illegible] carrier's duty? Assuming [illegible] how the proposition that we [illegible] here laid down, that State control is simply impossible. While this is true, there is a field within which a State may and should legislate, and that State is, as was well said by Chief Justice Marshall, in the enactment of such laws as apply to the complete internal commerce of the State. A contract to carry freight from place to place within a State is clearly within the reach of State laws, and as clearly beyond the scope of Federal legislation. A conflict between the State and the Nation, in the matter of the regulation of commerce, is clearly impossible, so wisely and so well have our fathers marked out the jurisdiction of Congress. Where the authority of the Nation begins, that of the State ends; the former reaches and controls inter-State commerce, the latter the internal commerce of a State; and the power of each within its appropriate sphere is alike ample. So far, then, as the question of expediency is concerned, it resolves itself into a question whether inter-State Railroad commerce shall be regulated at all. The Committee believe it ought to be, and that sooner or later it must be, and they believe that every year's delay on the part of Congress to enumerate the work to be done adds to the difficulties to be overcome, to the damages to be averted, and to the evils to be remedied. It has been said that, admitting the power to regulate commerce, it is not expected to exercise it to the extent of limiting the charges to such as are reasonable. We have already considered the question as to the power to do this, and have seen that it is clearly a regulation, and therefore within the power to regulate, and we here add, without hesitation, that we consider it not only the most just but the most expedient of all possible regulations. Any attempt to regulate this commerce which stops short of a prohibition of extortionate charges must prove altogether ineffectual as a remedy for existing evils. It is now well settled that States can put no limit upon these charges, let it also be acknowledged and settled that Congress cannot do so, and the evil which will result can be measured only by the selfishness, avarice and cupidity which can exist in a number of great corporate monopolies, combining for their common interest, and controlled by no law whatever."

THE CHIEF JUSTICESHIP.

Morrison R. Waite, of Ohio, was on the 19th, nominated for Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

The nomination of Morrison R. Waite, of Ohio, to be Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, was a surprise to the Senators and all others about the Capitol, including the Justices of the Court. Subsequently the Senate, in Executive Session, referred the nomination to the Committee on Judiciary, who will probably report favorably upon it. The nomination re-called that he acted as one of the counsel at the Geneva Tribunal of Arbitration; and some of the Senators were acquainted with him as an able lawyer of 30 years standing, and a Republican, not an active partisan, and at the same time President of the Ohio Constitutional Convention. It was discovered, on looking at the Supreme Court record, that a year ago, Mr. Waite was, on motion of Caleb Cushing, admitted to the bar of the Court as an attorney. The Senators of both parties speak well of the nomination, and there seems to be no doubt of its confirmation.

A dispatch from Cincinnati says: "The news of the nomination of Morrison R. Waite, of Toledo, now President of the Ohio Constitutional Convention, came to Mr. Waite at noon. At the beginning of the afternoon session, Hon. Rufus King arose and read the Associated Press dispatch from Washington announcing the nomination of Mr. Waite. That body forgot its gravity and broke out into a prolonged storm of applause, in which every member of the Convention most heartily participated. Hon. Samuel Hunt then moved to appoint a Committee of Five to draw a resolution of the sense of the Convention on the subject. President Waite ruled it out of order, and the business proceeded. He has refused to permit any member of the Convention to use his influence at Washington for his appointment, though several have offered to do so, and was not aware that any of his friends had presented his name. He is now stopping with his wife and sister at the Burnett House, and up to 11 o'clock he has had no notice, official or unofficial, from Washington, of his nomination."

It is understood that in the brief Executive session held Tuesday afternoon, the Judiciary Committee reported favorably on the nomination of Morrison R. Waite to be Chief Justice, and that it was laid over under rule one day. The motion to go into Executive Session was made by Senator Edmunds, the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

During the brief Executive session of the Senate Tuesday afternoon, a favorable report from the Committee on Judiciary was made upon the nomination of M. R. Waite to be Chief Justice. Senator Edmunds asked the Senate to proceed to a consideration of the subject, but as an objection was made the report went over under the rule for one day. The objection came from Sumner.

The Bar Association of Hamilton county, Ohio, on the 20th inst., unanimously, adopted the following:

"*Resolved*, That the appointment of Hon. Morrison R. Waite to the great office of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States is worthy to be made.

"*Resolved*, That his character as a man, abilities, learning, experience as a lawyer, amply qualify him for the high position, and we are proud that this great honor has been conferred on a member of the Ohio Bar, and we know his elevation will prove equally an honor to the Bar of the Union."

Jay Cooke & Co.

The creditors of Jay Cooke & Co. met Monday afternoon, when the Register made a report, showing that Lewis had been elected Trustee, but that no Committee had been elected. Counsellor Ruffin explained that the failure to elect a Committee rendered nugatory the election of a Trustee. The Register said an opportunity would be given those who desired to make a change in their votes to do so, and adjourned the meeting until Thursday next. The creditors subsequently held a meeting for the purpose of taking steps to continue the vote for Trustee and a Committee. The proceedings of the first meeting were reported to Judge Cadwalader before the second meeting took place. The Judge said there would have to be an election of an assignee at an adjourned meeting; if there really was any reason in looking to the interest of the creditors why a committee should be elected, he would like to hear it. The case had already been subject to unusual delays, and he thought it should be settled as rapidly as possible. The Judge then made an order as follows: "The Register's report of the proceedings in part, at the first meeting of the creditors, is to be presented at three o'clock in the afternoon. The case will be held on this partial report to-morrow morning at ten o'clock. The adjourned sitting of the first meeting, appointed by the Register for Monday afternoon, will be held as adjourned by him, until a further sitting, not later than Thursday next, the 22d inst."

Starving Indians.

Recently a sub-band of the Millelac Indians sent a deputation to St. Paul, complaining that they had not received annuities, and were starving. A messenger was sent to Agent Douglas, asking prompt aid for them. Now comes the report that the Vermillion bands are also starving, their annuities due last fall not having been paid. Eighty Indians from Vermillion, asking for assistance, are expected at Duluth on the 21st. It is reported that this party have been forced to cannibalism, and Friday last had already killed and eaten one man and two children. Their families were left absolutely starving. The high water last evening destroyed the wild rice, game has become scarce, and they have no other resources than annuities.

The Pembinas in the extreme northwest of Minnesota are believed to be similarly destitute, except that they did receive their annuities. The feeling is daily growing stronger that the Indian Bureau must be reformed. That the Chippewas have been shamefully abused by the Bureau officers is undeniable.

Worked while Asleep.

A queer case of somnambulism occurred a few evenings since at a factory in Westfield, Conn. One of the workmen, being instructed in the evening to carry into the shop the next morning a quantity of wood lying outside, was surprised when the time came, to find it all carefully piled. The watchman says that during the night the man did the work according to his instructions, stepping carefully over the things on the floor. The watchman spoke to him several times, but received no answer, and as soon as the job was done the somnambulist went home. The night worker noticed a feeling of lassitude the next morning, and was unable to work during the day.

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THE WEEKLY BLADE.

D. R. LOCKE, J. P. JONES.

LOCKE & JONES, Proprietors.

TOLEDO, OHIO, THURSDAY, JAN 29, 1874

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THE CHANCE OF ALL CHANCES.

We like, occasionally, to do a liberal thing.

This is our time to do one. Therefore we make this offer:

To the person who sends us the largest number of subscribers to the WEEKLY BLADE *before the first of March we will*

GIVE A SPLENDID ORGAN.

Magnificent for a family instrument, and suitable for a Church or Sunday School,

WORTH $200.00.

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GOLD WATCH!

worth $100.00.

For the third largest list, a splendid United States Silver Hunting Cased Watch! worth $40.00!

NOW TAKE NOTICE.

We shall go back and count for all competitors for the three prizes, all the names each has sent us since November, 1873, so that all will get the benefit of what they have done.

AND FURTHER!

Three subscribers to the AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL shall count as one to the WEEKLY BLADE, and two to LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY shall count as one to the same.

AND STILL FURTHER!

Agents competing for these prizes shall RECEIVE THEIR COMMISSIONS THE SAME AS BEFORE. Thus in any case, they get paid for their work.

AND YET AGAIN!

This offer applies to all who want books.

NOW GO TO WORK.

Is there not a church that wants this organ? We may possibly take a notion to distribute several of them. But this one (and it is a beauty) we shall give away anyhow. We will furnish specimens, &c., to all applicants, free.

LOCKE & JONES,
TOLEDO, OHIO.

AN APOLOGY.

Doubtless numerous readers of the BLADE have been somewhat at a loss the present week to understand why their paper failed to reach them at its usual time. The additional labor and unavoidable delays incident to the removal of our establishment to new and more commodious quarters, will, we hope, afford sufficient apology for the temporary detention which has occurred, and which will not affect subsequent issues.

THE $200 ORGAN.

The time for deciding who shall carry off the liberal prizes offered for our publications is not far away. And yet there is ample opportunity for active, energetic persons to revolutionize the result of the contest before the first of March. It should not be forgotten that we offer NINE principal prizes for the BLADE, NATIONAL MONTHLY and FARM JOURNAL, besides paying liberally for all subscriptions obtained by any agent. In the agricultural districts of the country now, when work is slack, any person well known in his neighborhood or county can do excellent work for our publications by utilizing a portion of his spare time. Full instructions, terms to agents, specimen copies, etc., will be sent free on application to LOCKE & JONES, Toledo, O.

☞ ANOTHER NASBY LETTER will be found on the next page of this paper, in which Mr. Nasby narrates his experience in [illegible]

THE WEEK.

The nomination of Hon. MORRISON REMICH WAITE, of Ohio, for Chief Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court, was followed by his confirmation by the Senate on the 21st inst., by a unanimous vote. The confirmation of Mr. WAITE has given very general satisfaction among the leading men of the country irrespective of party.—We give on the eighth page an interesting report from the Postmaster General in regard to the effects of the abolition of the Franking Privilege, in which that official takes strong grounds against the restoration of free matter, and recommends the transportation of certain matter as freight.—The Salary bill, which reduces the pay of all the officials affected by the notorious bill of March 3d, 1873, has been signed by the President, and is now in full force and effect. It does not reduce the salaries of either the President or the Judges of the Supreme Court.—Our report of Congressional proceedings elsewhere, gives a full resume of the deliberations of Congress during the past week.

The disaffection among the laboring men of New York city continues, without, however, any serious results. Small meetings are held nightly on the east side of the city, and the police force have instructions to keep an eye to the safety of all public buildings.—It is now stated that the strike in the Anthracite regions of Pennsylvania has been amicably settled. The Presidents of the leading companies have arranged a schedule of prices, and will open the season in March, with figures 15c. above those of last year.—The manufacurers of iron and steel held a meeting at Boston on the 22d, at which they formed an organization for the purpose of securing legislation favoring the production of these articles.

Our summary of news gives some interesting figures showing the results of the season's pork packing in the West, by which it appears that there is a marked decrease as compared with that of last year.—In the South the political affairs of Texas and Louisiana continue to absorb a large share of public attention. In the former State the various bureaus are now in the possession of the COKE party, and the General Government has so far taken sides as to instruct the Postmaster at Austin to deliver all mail matter addressed to the "Governor of Texas," to Hon. RICHARD COKE, the officer last elected. In Louisiana matters, it will be seen that Senator MORTON has virtually abandoned his advocacy of the claims of PINCHBACK to a seat in the Senate, and the matter has been referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

The famous Siamese Twins died at their residence in North Carolina, on the 17th inst. The bodies have been embalmed, and it is probable that interesting scientific questions which have been puzzling the savans regarding these singular beings may meet with an early solution.

Foreign advices bring the announcement of the marriage at St. Petersburg on the 23d, of the English Duke of Edinburgh, and the Grand Duchess MARIA of Russia. The Duke, whose name is ALFRED ERNEST ALBERT, is the second son of Queen VICTORIA, and is now in his 30th year. The Grand Duchess is in her 21st year, and she brings her husband a private fortune of about $100,000,000.

Our English advices contain full details of the dissolution of Parliament by the Queen. The defeat of the Government on the Irish Higher Education question, with subsequent complications, is alleged as the cause. Reports from the principal countries of the world will be found in our summary of the week's news.

MADAME PAREPA ROSA.

Recently the voice of a great singer was hushed forever to this world. Madame PAREPA ROSA, whose wonderful vocal talent has made her name familiar to thousands in our own land and in Europe, died Jan. 22d in London, after an illness not of long duration, but extremely critical in character, arising, no doubt, although the brief telegram announcing the fact gives no particulars, from complications resulting from the birth of a child some four weeks since. Madame ROSA was born in Edinburg, Scotland (we believe of Scotch-Irish parentage) in 1830, and she was, consequently, in her forty-third year. Indications of remarkable vocal power were developed at an early period in childhood, and these were amply sustained by her subsequent musical career. In London, Paris, Edinburg, and, in fact, nearly all the prominent cities of Europe as well as those of the United States, she has sung to large audiences, and for many years prior to the advent of NILSSON and LUCCA in America, she had been the chief favorite of American audiences. Her voice was remarkable both for brilliancy and compass, and its rare union of power and sweetness gave her the most marked success in the solo singing of the public concert, although she was equally at home upon the operatic stage. Her marriage with HERR CARL ROSA, the eminent violinist, took place in 1869 (if we mistake not) and their union was far more felicitous than frequently falls to the lot of noted singings or actors. No children survive as the fruit of this marriage, although two were born.

At the opening of the WHEELER Opera House in this city, December 16 h 1871, Madame ROSA made her first and only appearance in Toledo, sustaining the leading part in FLOTOW's beautiful Opera of "Martha." At that time she made many friends, who will learn with sincere regret that her brilliant musical career is ended forever.

☞ MORE VALUABLE INFORMATION is furnished gratuitously to the subscribers of the BLADE, through its Correspondence Department, than is supplied by any other paper in the land.

☞ AS A FAMILY PAPER, the Weekly TOLEDO BLADE is unsurpassed. Send to LOCKE & JONES for a specimen copy, [illegible]

HOPEFUL FINANCIAL NEWS.

At length we are cheered by a bright ray of hope from Congress regarding the much vexed and vexing financial question, a portion of which appears to be assuming a definite shape, and to give promise, at an early date, of at least a partial relief from the severe monetary stringency and depression under which the country has labored for the past three months. The Committee of Ways and Means at a meeting last week, unanimously agreed to report a bill to the House to extend the legal-tender circulation to $400,000,000, thus confirming the use by the Secretary of the Treasury of the so-called reserve of $44,000,000, $27,000,000 of which have been already issued. The Committee also propose, that this much needed increase in the volume of currency shall be made permanent, and not be continued as a channel by which derangement of the money market, by inflation or contraction, may hereafter occur, through the management or mismanagement of those who have controlling financial power. This measure, if adopted by Congress, will greatly aid in affording the much desired financial relief. Should this happy result be attained, with the opening of Spring we may reasonably expect the return of a large share, if not all our former business prosperity, even though traces of the depressing effects of the financial panic may not be entirely obliterated. It is to be earnestly hoped that Congress will view this all-important question in its true light, and come to the immediate relief of the laboring and producing classes, imitating the recent wise example of the French Government, which, with a national debt of one billion one hundred and eighty-four million, aside from her enormous debt of one billion one hundred million to the German Empire, which she paid in less than three years, by her judicious currency system, through which no avenues of employment were closed to her people, by unwise, paralyzing contraction, gaining their confidence thereby, and notwithstanding foreign and civil war, and the unprecedentedly rapid payment of her gigantic debt to Germany, the payment of interest on her national debt, and a reduction of its principal, accomplished all these financial miracles without unusual monetary stringency, a financial panic, or any business depression or suspension.

While we do not regard this measure as adequate to meet the wants of the country, it is a source of relief and may be the best that can be done with Congress before the people have an opportunity to secure representatives who will correctly reflect public sentiment. It is not so much currency inflation that is required to insure permanent relief, but there must be some method adopted to give it elasticity. There must be some plan devised by which banks, if not individuals, may be enabled to temporarily increase their currency in emergencies. There is no other measure by which the people can be secured against panics. The business of this country is rapidly increasing and the $40,000,000 of reserve will scarcely be sufficient to make a perceptible impression upon monetary affairs. R. G. DUNN & Co. report the past year over 600,000 business firms, against 431,000 the previous year. These additional two hundred thousand business firms only represent the general growth of business and the general increase in the demand for currency. It is evident that the people need more money, but it is folly to fix a given sum, beyond which the people cannot go, in any emergency, when elasticity may be given to the currency without the least danger of undue inflation resulting therefrom.

TO SETTLERS, EMIGRANTS AND OTHERS.

We wish to direct the special attention of all persons going West, to the interesting and valuable letters from various parts of the country now being published in the BLADE. These letters are all written by actual settlers, who have no pecuniary interest in the sale of lands, and will be continued throughout the coming year. If you are thinking of emigrating, send us your subscription for a year, and the information obtained regarding the West will repay it ten-fold.

LAND TROUBLES IN KANSAS.

The prominent feature of the anti-monopoly campaign in Kansas, upon which some division of opinion has taken place among Kansas Republicans, has been recently invested with renewed interest by the decision of Judge GOPDEN, at Topeka, in one of the Osage land cases, which resulted in favor of the settler. The history of the "Osage Land Troubles" in Kansas dates from 1863, when Congress granted the State alternate sections of a strip of country twenty miles wide, for the construction of the Leavenworth, Lawrence & Galveston Railroad, the grant not to take place until after the definite location of the road. At the same time Congress passed an act authorizing the President to treat with the Osage Indians, for the purpose of annulling their title to certain reservations in the southern part of the State, through which the proposed road was expected to pass. In January, 1867, the treaty was concluded, the Indians ceding to the Government a strip of land thirty miles in width on the eastern side of their reservation for $800,000. By the terms of the treaty, however, these lands were not to be open to settlement by pre-emption or homestead entry, but were to be sold for cash, one section of the treaty allowing actual settlers on the lands, at the time the treaty was made, to pre-empt a quarter section at $1,25 per acre, of which privilege 143 settlers availed themselves. When the Railroad located its line in 1867, the Land Commissioner ruled that the Company could not take the alternate sections, but that all must be sold. Secretary BROWNO reversed this decision, and in January, 1868, the Government formally withdrew the lands from sale, and the Railroad thereupon mortgaged them. [illegible]

GERMAN EMIGRATION.

Some months since the announcement was made by the press generally that the Government of Prussia had enacted laws for the prevention of emigration, and had prohibited American emigration agents from carrying on their business within its dominions. This was subsequently contradicted and then again reaffirmed. From recent developments, however, it appears that such a law is in force in Saxony, and that an ordinance to that effect has been passed by the Prussian Government, to be enforced within a given time, which will effectually debar emigration agents in all portions of the German Empire from circulating pamphlets regarding the advantages of localities in America, for the enlightenment of those who desire to seek new homes, or the publication in Germany of newspapers or tracts advocating emigration. All personal efforts in that direction are likewise forbidden.

That the main object of these laws is the prevention of the self-expatriation of the producing classes, upon whom national prosperity depends, who, weary with the heavy burdens of taxation, illy paid and unrequited toil, and the subjection of their sons to enforced military service during the best years of their lives for a mere pittance, no thinker, conversant with the practical effects and workings of German political philosophy will deny. In the expulsion of Mr. ALLARDT, an Emigration Agent in the employ of the State of Michigan, from Saxony, the excuse is given that misrepresentations published by him in *Der Michigan Wegweiser*, a weekly paper printed in the German language, some time since at Frankfort-on-the-Main, wherein glowing and false accounts were given of the climate, soil and productions, and the agricultural advantages of the Lake Superior region of Michigan, through which misrepresentations a colony of several thousand Saxons had been induced to emigrate to that country, who had since written home to their former Government complaining of gross frauds and deceptions, afforded ample reasons for the enactment of laws of expulsion from Germany of all emigration agents.

These charges, and that of libeling the Chancellor of Saxony, Mr. ALLARDT emphatically denies, and several lengthy official examinations failed to prove their truth, he, on the contrary, showing that no such representations had been made; nevertheless, as the editor of the above mentioned journal, and the publisher of cheap pamphlets which had been sold for a few pence, and were liberally distributed in beer-houses and societies, setting forth the advantages of Michigan and inviting emigration thither, and the fact of his being in the employ of the State of Michigan, operated against him, and he was peremptorily expelled from Saxony. Although Mr. BANCROFT used all means consistent with his mission to induce the German Government to overrule the decision of the Government of Saxony, he was unsuccessful, and Mr. ADLARDT was peremptorily expelled from that principality, from whence he went to Hamburg, whose financial interests in the emigration business are so great that he hoped to escape the notice of the Government. In that, however, he was mistaken and his rapid expulsion followed, with the palliating excuse that the Prussian ordinance prohibiting American emigration had gone into effect since a certain expired date, and his presence in any part of Germany as an emigration agent would no longer be tolerated. These arbitrary measures on the part of the German Government are creating much sensation among the people of Germany, and a correspondence with the State Department has resulted therefrom, with no hope, however, of modifying the oppressive act which seeks to prevent the Germans from making for themselves new and happy homes, as so many of their compatriots have done in the United States, under whose republican institutions they have found that social, religious and political liberty which the Fatherland, with its military despotism denies them. Though temporary success may attend these oppressive enactments, no permanent benefit will be derived therefrom, since the tyranny which has created them will react and effect the very results they were designed to prevent. The German masses are too intelligent and too far advanced in enlightenment, to submit many years to such unwarrantable and despotic legislation and the injustice and political slavery engendered by it.

JOHN DUNCAN'S WIDOW.

We are now prepared to fill orders for "Nasby's" great story of "John Duncan's Widow," by sending the first two numbers of the story together, thus obviating delay on the part of the reader. The success of the story thus far has been simply enormous, which is owing not only to the well known ability of the author, but to the fact that the three numbers of the NATIONAL MONTHLY containing it are sent to any address by the publishers of the BLADE on receipt of twenty-five cents.

☞ In referring to the remarks of Senator BOUTWELL upon the currency question, the New York *Times* says:

It is to be said, however, that the tendency of the Senate is very strongly conservative, and the adherence of such Western men as Howe, of Wisconsin, and Sherman, of Ohio, is a source of encouragement.

We have known men to be patted on their backs before for a failure to act in harmony with the sentiment of their fellows, and we don't believe the gentlemen named by the *Times* will thank that journal for the prominence which it gives them in that connection.

☞ Some one speaks of our State Legislature as destined to have a "short, dull session" this winter. It will certainly be dull, and the winter may be short, but the session—ah! that will be lengthened sweetness long drawn out.

☞ Under the provisions of the new constitution of Pennsylvania, two women have been nominated for members of the Philadelphia Board of Education. Step by step, the women go marching on.

LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY.

The February number of this sprightly and popular Magazine gives indications that the promise of making it this year better than ever before, is being amply fulfilled. The principal attraction is the opening article in which we have a continuation of "John Duncan's Widow," Mr. Nasby's great story, which in this number develops new features of interest. Glancing through the remaining pages, we note that HUGH R. ELTON has a pleasant bit of surprise for the reader concealed in the story of "Taking in the Lodger;" RICHARD GRANT gives a pungent satire on the management of banks in "Sharper & Co.," while MARY HARTWELL pays her respects to her own sex in a brilliant bit of social sarcasm entitled "Mrs Jennings Payne." Mr. LOCKE (Nasby) contributes to the present number another of his inimitable sketches entitled "A Persian Vision of the Hereafter;" BIRCH ARNOLD, a German legend, well worked into poetry, under the title of "The Ride to the Wedding;" and JEANNIE MORRISON, a well written story of "How it Happened." The pages of selected matter, though few, comprise some of the very best things to be found in late foreign literature. LOCKE & JONES, Publishers, Toledo, Ohio.

THE SKIES GROW BRIGHTER.

Congress is beginning to work in the right direction on the currency question. The Free Banking system, advocated by the BLADE from the first, is agreed upon by the Home Committee on Banking and Currency. This committee decided, on Monday, to proceed at once to fix upon the outlines of a bill to be presented to the House. Several propositions were voted upon. The committee decided against KELLEY'S three sixty five bill, against a proposition to abolish National Banks, and also against a proposition to substitute greenbacks for National Bank Notes. The Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette* says:

Having got these questions out of the way, the committee went on in a series of votes to lay out a bill to improve the present banking system. The following was agreed upon as the leading features of the bill: First, that the restriction on the total amount of bank circulation shall be repealed, which is equivalent to authorizing free banking under the provisions of the present law, except as modified by the committee's bill.

2. That the requirement that banks shall keep a reserve of greenbacks in their vaults to redeem their notes shall be repealed, and that instead, every bank shall deposit in the Treasury, greenbacks amounting to five per cent. of its circulation as a fund for the redemption of its notes, and shall keep this reserve good.

3. That banks shall not be allowed to pay or receive interest on deposit with each other.

4. That country banks shall be required to keep their deposit reserves at home.

5. That gold banks shall be allowed to issue notes to the amount of 80 per cent. only of their bonds, instead of 90 as at present.

It is understood that only three members of the committee voted against reporting a bill combining these features, and that these were Hawley, Phelps and Mitchell. The committee subsequently agreed to report adversely upon the Postal Savings Bank bill, but in order to give the friends of the measure an opportunity to advocate it in the House, it was arranged that the bill, with the adverse report, should be put on the calendar for discussion in Committee of the Whole.

This is an important move in the right direction, and looks towards free banking, which, under proper restrictions, may afford all the elasticity desired for our currency without the least danger of undue inflation.

WHITE VS. COLORED MEN IN CONGRESS.

The Southern white Representatives in Congress are meeting with poor success in convincing the people of their superiority over the colored race. The fact is in nearly every instance in which these representatives of the two races have measured swords, the colored man has completely overpowered his arrogant antagonist. The last case which has come to our knowledge occurred during the general debate in the House on Saturday last, which is described as follows by the Washington correspondent of the New York *Times*:

The feature of the day was the debut of another colored representative, Mr. Cain, of South Carolina. The occasion was the speech of Hon. Wm. M. Robbins, of North Carolina, who showed himself to be a fire-eater of the fiercest type, and who, according to his own statement, "was an officer in the Confederate army, participating in nearly all the battles of the Army of Northern Virginia from Bull Run to Appomattox Court House." Mr. Robbins opposed the Civil Rights bill. He argued that there was a natural and perpetual antagonism between the white and colored races; that although the former slaveholders had sought to "bring these barbarians up to civilization," they had not risen much above their natural level, and that the passage of the Civil Rights bill would result in the degradation of the white race, not in the elevation of the black. Mr. Cain replied in an earnest, unpremeditated, impassioned speech. He retorted that the civilizing instruments employed by Mr. Robbins and his race had been the stocks, the whipping-post, the thumb-screw, and the lash, and that, despite these agencies, himself and his fellows stood upon that floor, Mr. Robbins' equals, to assert their rights. This speech, in its way, created as great a sensation as did the speech of Mr. Elliott. Mr. Robbins was completely humiliated by the jeers of the House. His own Conservative colleague, Waddell, acknowledged that the proud Confederate Colonel, after inviting the attack, was routed by a colored man. A prominent Republican leader said to-night that, in the ratio of their numbers, it must be conceded that the colored representatives in Congress are better Parliamentary speakers than the whites.

☞ The HOMESTEAD COTTAGE, with full plans and descriptions, will be sent free on application to LOCKE & JONES, publishers AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL, Toledo, Ohio.

FORTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

In the Senate, on the 19th, among other bills presented was one by Senator Logan authorizing the President to appoint five Commissioners to collect information as to the effects of the liquor traffic and practical workings of the prohibitory laws, &c. The Commissioners are to serve without pay, and are appointed from civil life, irrespective of political considerations, but the bill requires that they shall be in harmony with the views of the tax-payers of the country who, in 1873, out of the total Internal Revenue of $114,000,000, paid $93,000,000 for the three articles of spirits, tobacco and unfermented liquor alone. At the expiration of the morning hour, Senator Wright proceeded to address the Senate on the resolution of the Finance Committee given last week, which declares it to be the duty of Congress to adopt measures to redeem the pledge of the public faith and furnish a currency of uniform value always redeemable in gold or its equivalent. He spoke against the resumption of specie payment and the contraction of the currency. Senator Logan followed, taking the position that a return to specie payment was both impracticable and unnecessary.

In the House, on the 19th, Mr. Wilson (Ind.) introduced a series of resolutions on the financial situation, on the adoption of which he moved a suspension of the rules. The gist of the resolutions lay in the first, which declared that instead of levying additional taxes, the true policy lies in the enactment of such a law or laws as will relieve the stringency, and supply the means necessary to the business wants of the country, by increasing the circulating medium, thereby relieving business, increasing the revenues, and thus avoiding the necessity of increasing the present rate of taxation or duties, or the imposition of additional taxes or duties. The House refused to suspend the rules by a vote of 108 to 58, a two-thirds vote being requisite. Mr. Ward introduced a bill providing that the heirs of any soldier who was killed or died while in the military service during the late war, whose period of enlistment was for less than one year, or who shall have since died by reason of wounds received or disease contracted, shall be entitled to receive the same bounties as if said soldier had enlisted for three years. This bill includes all who enlisted for three or nine months at the commencement of the war, and who have never received a bounty. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

In the Senate on the 20th, petitions were presented from the National Board of Trade; for a revision of the Internal Revenue laws; endorsing the petition of the New York Chamber of Commerce for the prevention of collisions at sea; protesting against any increase in the volume of currency; asking that the National banking act be amended, and that the volume of fractional currency be reduced. Senators Bogy and Orlesby spoke to the petition for cheap transportation. The resolution of the Finance Committee being again taken up, the Senate listened to speeches by Senators Brownlow and Gordon against, and Senator Chandler in favor of, specie resumption and currency contraction. The Finance resolution gave way to the Postal Route bill, which in its turn was laid aside for the former, and the Senate adjourned with Senator Merriam holding a right to the floor.

In the House, on the same day, Mr. Maynard, from the Committee on Rules, reported a new rule, providing that all motions to suspend rules, except to go into Committee of the Whole, shall, before submitted to the House, be seconded by a majority of the House, as in the case of the previous question. The proposition gave rise to considerable discussion, the new rule being advocated by some as a means of preventing the House from being forced to vote by yeas and nays on buncombe resolutions, and being opposed by others as an infringement on the constitutional rights of the minority, which would thus be cut off from power to have a vote taken on the propositions emanating from it. After considerable discussion and filibustering, the rule was adopted by a vote of [illegible] to 101, and the House adjourned.

The Senate, after the consideration of one or two bills not of interest, on the 21st, resumed the discussion of the Finance Committee's reso[illegible] the discussion was principally carried on by Messrs. Merriam and Edmunds, till [illegible] when the Senate went into Executive Session, and soon afterward adjourned.

The House, on the 21st, passed a bill authorizing the Legislatures in the several Territories, except Utah, at each regular session, to make an assignment of Judges to hold Courts in those districts, and when the Legislature fail to do so, then the Judges of such Territory shall make an assignment to continue in force till the close of the next regular session of the Legislature. The exception of Utah was because there the Government made an assignment of Judges.—A spirited and prolonged debate arose from the introduction of a bill requesting the President to extend in the name of the United States, a respectful and cordial invitation to the Governments of other Nations to be represented and take part in the International Exposition, to be held in Philadelphia, under the auspices of the Government of the United States, in the year 1876. The principal objection urged was that the passage of such a bill would commit the U. S. to an expenditure some $5,000,000 to $8,000,000, but the House refused to lay the bill on the table, and it was passed without yeas and nays.

Senator Morton introduced into the Senate on the 22d a motion authorizing the Committee on Transportation to present a bill instituting a commission of five eminent and skilled persons to inquire into the best methods of securing the speedy transportation at reasonable rates of freight and passengers; the safety and comfort of passengers by providing for the inspection of bridges, tracks, locomotives and cars, and reform of any abuses that may exist in consequence of extortion or unjust discriminations in transportation of freight and passengers; and in general, what regulations are necessary to promote the efficiency of Railroads, the interests of commerce, and the convenience and safety of the traveling public. Senator Anthony, from the Committee on Printing, reported favorably on the resolution making it unlawful for the Congressional Printer to print in the Congressional Record any speech or part of speech not actually delivered in the Senate or House of Representatives, and the rule was adopted. The Senate again took up the Finance Committee's resolution at the expiration of the morning hour, and Senator Boutwell made a lengthy and able argument in which he stated that he was opposed to the permanent increase of the currency, and in favor of a return to specie payment as set forth in his report as Secretary of the Treasury in 1872. He was followed briefly by Senators Schurtz and Gordon, after which the Senate adjourned.

The House Committee on Ways and Means on the 22d, reported adversely to the repeal of the tax on bank checks and friction matches. Mr. Dawes reported a bill to fix the amount of legal tender notes at $[illegible],000,000. It is the bill prepared by Mr. Beck, and it declares that no violens of the law existing prior to the act of April 12, 1866, are in force so far as to authorize the amount of legal tender notes of the United States at the amount of $400,000,000 in general circulation; and that the total amount of United States notes issued or to be issued shall never exceed $400,000,000. He moved to make the bill the special order in Committee of the Whole for to-day, Thursday; agreed to. The House then took up the West Virginia contested election case.

Among the bills introduced in the Senate on the 23d was one by Senator Wright to provide for cheap transportation by way of the Great Lakes of the Northwest. The bill provides for the incorporation of a company, the names of the corporators not being mentioned, to construct a ship canal around the Niagara Falls, the United States Government to endorse the construction bonds to the extent of 80 per cent. of the cost [illegible]

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In the Senate on the 26th inst., the question of Mr. Pinchback's eligibility to a seat in that body was taken up and on motion of Senator Morton, hitherto Pinchback's champion, the matter was referred to the Special Committee on Privileges and Elections. The remainder of the session was spent in the discussion of the Finance Committee's resolution.

In the House, on the same day, a large number of bills were introduced, among others, one by Mr. Orth to provide a national currency and for the redemption of circulating notes. Mr. Garfield offered a resolution authorizing the Committee on Appropriations to insert a section in the Legislative Appropriation bill repealing all laws that authorize permanent and indefinite appropriations to defray the expense of the loan and treasury notes or other paper issues of the United States, and requiring the Secretary of the Treasury hereafter to submit detailed estimates of the appropriation required to defray such expenses. Adopted.

Mr. Young offered a resolution instructing the Committee of Ways and Means to inquire whether there is any necessity for a continuance of the office of Supervisor of Internal Revenue. Adopted.

The House then proceeded with the West Virginia election case, without coming to a vote.

THE PRESENT.

In one sense the present is always the time for good resolutions; but in the first month of a year they are formed with peculiar fitness. It would be interesting could we learn how much is due in the special matter of life insurance to resolutions made during the present month. The two most important duties devolving on a prudent man are to make his will, and to insure his life; but he is inclined to put them off. One day seems to be as good as another—for making one's will, and insuring one's life. So people convince themselves, and so it frequently happens that these duties are deferred until there is no day left in which they can be performed. But it also happens not unfrequently, that even an easy-going, dilatory man is suddenly pulled up by the return of January. "Another year gone, and another year going!" This thought awakens forebodings or quickens resolutions, and thus the first month of the year becomes a time for action which would otherwise be delayed indefinitely. It is for this reason that we have always advised the agents of life insurance to seize on anniversaries to stir up vacillating and undecided men. Most people, now-a-days, know the value and advantage of a life insurance, and mean to avail themselves of it. Their difficulty is to fix a time. The agent's business is to induce them to "act in the living present." But there are many who always make the beginning of a year a fresh starting time in their affairs, and these can now be more successfully reminded of their duty, than at any other season. Therefore we say to our friends, in the life insurance profession: "Bestir yourselves, for this season of the year should be your season of successful labor; and to our friends who are thinking about a life insurance: "Bestir yourselves, for there can be no time for action like the present time!"

The following example of a profitable insurance is worthy of note:—Mr. F. M. W. of New York City, took a policy of life insurance for $1,000, in the Equitable Life Assurance Society. At the end of six years, after paying premiums amounting to $124 80, he died. The Society paid in cash to his representatives $1,737.55, this sum comprised the sum originally assured, and the dividends amounting to $737.45, which had been earned by the policy.

Communism.

The New York Tribune says meetings are held nightly in smaller halls on the east side of the city, and the Internationalists and discontented workmen listen to speeches which are often violent. One of the leaders at a meeting held in Avenue A, a few evenings ago, said they could count on 15,000 well drilled men, and that many of these were attached to German regiments in the National Guard. It is known that an order was issued to the Force a short time ago to keep a close watch over churches and other public buildings. It is asserted that at some of the east side halls companies of Internationalists are drilled by competent officers, and that the leaders assert that unless the rights of the working people are respected by the Police, they will use their arms.

Cures all kinds of Catarrh.

So successful has Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery proven, as a constitutional treatment for Catarrh, when coupled with the use of Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy, applied locally by the use of Dr. Pierce's Nasal Douche (the only method of reaching the upper and back cavities of the head,) that the proprietor of these medicines has long offered a standing reward of $500 for a case of Catarrh which he can not cure. The two medicines, with instrument, for $2 by druggists.

A SPECIMEN OUT OF THOUSANDS.

CORTLAND, Ill., April 28, 1873.

DR. PIERCE, Buffalo, N. Y.:

DEAR SIR:—It is with pleasure that I make this statement to you, that after taking medicine for twenty years for the Catarrh, I tried your Catarrh Remedy, and effected a cure, to that it has not troubled me for two years. S. WHEELER.

STEALING OUR THUNDER.

People should beware of those imposters who copy Dr. Pierce's original style of advertising, by offering various sized rewards for cases of Catarrh and other diseases which they can not cure. Those who do not possess sufficient intelligence to write an original advertisement are not likely to have made great and valuable discoveries in Medicine.

We do not think it needful to discuss the very remarkable difference in principle between the old fashioned Metal Trusses and the new method of curing Rupture by the Elastic Truss, which retains the Hernia securely at all times, is worn night and day with perfect ease, and soon permanently cures the patient. Sold at a reasonable price. This New Truss is sent by mail everywhere by the Elastic Truss Co., No. 683 Broadway, N. Y. City, who furnish full descriptive [illegible]

The Nasby Letters.

Mr. Nasby is Flattered by an Appointment—The Treachery of Pollock and the Exasperating Bigler.

CONFEDRIT X ROADS,
(wich is in the State uv Kentucky)
January 24, 1874.

The Corners wuz wild with delite last week, at learnin that I hed received the appointment of Freight and Passenger Agent at Secessionville, the nearest Railroad pint to us. There aint no freight ever shipped from Secessionville, and the passenger traffic is limited, but a agent is necessary, and I wuz surprised that I wuz appinted ez sich. In this case, for the first time in my life, the offis sought the man, and not the man the offis, for I knowd nothin about it till it wuz done. The fust idee I hed uv it, wuz re-sevin a letter thro the mail, from the President uv the Company, givin me the place, and directin me to take possession within a week.

I immediately segested to Deekin Pogram, Bascom and Issaker Gavitt, that ez I wuz to leave the Corners for a noo field of yoosfulness, it wood be ez little ez they cood do to give me a public dinner or sum sich recognishen. The Deekin and Bascom refoosed pint-blank. Whereupon I postively told em that of they didn't give me a public complimentary dinner I wooden go!

That fetched em. Bascom turned pale at the threat, and remarked that one year more of my parsonage wood rooin him, while at Secessionville there wuz a rich grosery-keeper who cood afford it, and he consented. Deekin Pogram remarked to-wunst that, rather than hev me stay away from a field of labor whex I hed sich an opportoonity for dooin good, and where I cood git doubtliss better board than I cood at his humble home, he wood consent.

The dinner came off last nite at Bascom's. There wuz present all the leadin citizens uv the Corners. The Deekin okkepied the cheir, and Capt. McPelter the other end uv the table.

After the cloth wuz removed, the Deekin rose and remarkt that this wuz the happiest minit uv his life. He wuz filled with soopreme joy. Troo, our friend who wuz about to leave us woos no longer grace his humble board, but there wuz left the great consolashun that our friend's bill for board wuzn't growin any bigger. Then, agin, our friend wuz goin into the servis uv a railroad, wich filled every citizen uv the Corners with hope uv final payment. Our friend wuz agoin to sell tickets and collect money for freights, and, uv course, he wood be able to pay his debts in the Corners. The railroad wuz a rich and bloated corporashun, and cood afford it. He wood, in conclushen propose the health uv our friend with the wish that he may live long enuf to die without the stingin remorse weighin on his mind that he owed anybody.

Bascom follered the Deekin. He remarkt that this wuz the happiest moment uv hiz life. Patronage wuz a good thing, but it wuz possible for a grosery to hev too much uv it. A chronic thirst shood alluz be backed up with a plethoric pocket book to make things plensant. Our departin friend had a thiret sufficiently cravin to delite the most exactin bar-keeper—but alas! Nine yeers repeetin them terrible words, "Chalk it down," hed made em somewat monotonous. But wat he wanted to say wuz this: Uv course our friend will yoose every means in his power to liquidate the debts he has made here. In order that these payments shall be made ez soon ez possible, he wood urge upon the citizens uv the Corners to give the road in whose employ our friend goes, the preference over the rival line. And pertikelerly wood he urge that citizens uv the Corners, when they travel, take the cars at Secessionville, and also to alluz buy tickets uv our friend, the new Station Agent, rather than to pay on the cars. No Conductor owes us anything. Ez he understood it, the Company settles with its Agents wunst in three months—he believed that in that time our friend ought to get enuf funds in his hands to clear him here. May he prosper in it!

I respondid. I remarked to em that this wuz the happiest moment uv my life. I hed bin honored with the confidence uv the people uv the Corners. (Deep silence when they ought to hev cheered.) I hed lived among yoo for years, (more deep silence,) and hed okkepied positshens uv trust. I wuz now goin away (cheers) and, ef I knowd myself and my opperchoonities, shood pay my debts. (Loud and vociferous cheers.) I hed no doubt uv my ability to do so. I hed held offis under various Dimokratic administrashens too long not to know all about how to make a place profitable. So much for that. But I wood not take my seat without remarkin that I feel great encouragement. I see nothin but good in the signs uv the times. I shel wunst more be Postmaster at the Corners—I shel wunst more take my old familiar place at Bascom's fire-side, and shel in that congenial place, spend the last end uv my life. I hev good reasons for the hope that is in me. I see a life. Our anshent enemies, the Republikins, are in sore trouble, and the Demokrisy wuz never—

At this plut, there wuz a commoshen in the lower part uv the room. There wuz Pollock, Joe Bigler and the Sheriff uv the county, and they didn't lose no time in maken their bizness knowd. Two weeks afore I got a soot uv close uv Pollock on tick, tellin him some little, pleasant story, wich he hed the audacity to claim wuz a fraud. He hed charged me with gettin goods under false pretenses, and hed established his case, and he selected this ferthe occashen to enforce the claim. I wuz immejitly arrested, and the Sheriff told me to git my hat and accompany him to the jail.

"But I can't go," I sed, "I take my new place to-morrow mornin, and if I am not there I lose it."

"That is troo," retorted Pollock, "but you'll never see that place till yoo pay me $63.25. That's my little game."

There wuz a hurried consultashen.

"Ef this claim ain't satisfied, he can't go," sed Bascom. "Good Heavens, and he will continue his account with me."

"This must be fixed up," shrieked the Deekin. "Else he will stay at my house."

And so they held a hurried consultashun wich resulted in Bascom and the Deekin puttin up the money and gettin a receet in full and the withdrawal of the soot, and Bigler and Pollock withdrawed in great glee.

Now comes the sekel to this outrageous transaction. Bascom harnessed his mule and took me over to Secessionville the next mornin where I wuz to take my new place. The station agent wuz there ez yoosual, and he perseed to stay. I showed him my authority. He laft.

"The name at the end uv that letter," sed he "don't happen to be the name uv our President."

"Then this letter uv appointment is a—"

"Hoax, I guess. Somebody has bin imposin on you. It aint in the honest handwrith uv anybody connected with the road."

It was too troo. We returned sadly to the Corners. Bascom never spoke a word to me till he received his bar. I was took for the assults and tuk into the cel at once. The Issaker came in and told em that it had all leaked out. Pollock and Joe Bigler hed put the thing up to enable em to get their money out uv me—and they succeeded. They wrote the letters uv appintment and carried out the serious joke to its disgustin end.

The sorrow uv Bascom and the Deekin wuz tetchin.

"Sixty-three dollars and twenty-five cents in cash in addition to wat he owes us!" sighed they.

"And he is still on our hands," they yelled, glarin at me.

I take it philosophically. I shel stay here and labor for these people till a change in the politikle world puts me in offis agin. The joke is onto them, not me.

PETROLEUM V. NASBY,
(Wich wuz Postmaster.)

Correspondence.

WASHINGTON LETTERS.

WASHINGTON, JAN. 24.

The unanimous confirmation of Mr. Waite, after all that has transpired in reference to the appointment of a Chief Justice, strikes the country as something remarkable, and is said to have produced a deep impression on the President, who esuticuly held the nomination from Friday to Monday so as to be sure that it was not killed by the press before the Senate had a chance to act on it.

But I am inclined to think that the discussion which was aroused on the nomination of Mr. Cushing has had a healthy influence, as well on the President as on the public generally, as it showed clearly what I have endeavored to set forth in this correspondence, that to appoint a man who has achieved universal distinction is to appoint a man whose best days are gone, and who must retire from his seat before he is fairly warm in it.

There were two courses before the President. He must either choose a man comparatively young and with service in him, but who had demonstrated his fitness for the place only to a locality, or he must take one who had already won great distinction, with the years which such a distinction almost always implies. In the nomination of Mr. Williams the former course was adopted; in the nomination of Mr. Cushing the latter. In the former case the distinguished lawyers of the Judiciary Committee hesitated: in the latter they unanimously approved.

In the selection of Mr. Waite the President has returned to his former policy and given the country a Chief Justice who may be expected to be useful in the position for many years; and, if he has the qualities of a Judge, can hardly fail to reach the highest judicial distinction, while his usefulness will be largely in proportion to the length of his service.

Those who are the best acquainted with the new Chief Justice have no hesitation in giving him their indorsement to the fullest extent. He is not only learned in his profession, but he is largely free from those false lights which destroy the mental equipoise of so many brilliant men, and especially unfit them for the judicial office. We may hope, therefore, that he will honor this great position as much as it honors him, and that Ohio will have no cause to regret the warm indorsement which she has given to her distinguished son.

The President may well be wary of the press—especially the Liberal or Independent press—for it is not particularly scrupulous in the methods it adopts to accomplish its purposes. We had an illustration in the arrest of several persons engaged in stealing treasury warrants from a room in the Internal Revenue bureau. One of the parties arrested bore the name of Williams, and as Attorney General Williams had just been under the fast of these masters of public opinion it was deemed a favorable opportunity to connect the robbery with the Attorney General's office. The *Tribune* put it in this way:

"Mason is said upon trustworthy authority to be the step-son of Attorney General Williams. His name is Benny L. Mason, which is the name he registered at the Gilsey House; but some time ago, it is said, he formally assumed the name of his step-father." The *Sun* varies the statement to suit its own particular indiosyncrasy in regard to the Washington ring. It says: "Williams is well known as a tool of the Washington ring, and paid a visit to this city last summer with Aleck Shepherd, (our Governor) Judge Fisher and Mr. Harrington, on the memorable occasion of their attack on the liberty of the press." The *World* was more laconic in its lying and only said that Mason was ascertained to be a son of Judge Williams, of Washington.

It turns out that this Williams is not a "step-son" of Attorney General Williams, nor any way connected with him or his office; that his name is not Benny L. Mason; that he is not the "son of Judge Williams;" that he is not a "tool of the Washington ring;" and that he did not go to New York last summer with Aleck Shepherd. He is altogether another kind of a Williams, but he answered the purpose of the independent press nevertheless.

After the turmoil in regard to Mr. Cushing it became a question with him whether the censure of the country ought not to prevent him from accepting the position at Madrid; but he has decided not to back out, and is very busy in making preparations for his departure.

The troubles in Louisiana will probably be solved by a new election. Gen. Butler in the House, and Mr. Carpenter in the Senate, have been together on a bill for that purpose, and they expect to put it through.

There seems to be no good foundation for the rumor that Judge Richardson intends to resign the Treasury portfolio.

The project for an investigation into the results of liquor prohibition is likely to take a different shape. In the Senate Mr. Wright, from the Finance Committee, has reported a substitute enlarging the scope of the investigation. It provides for the appointment of five commissioners, who are to be charged with the duty of investigating the liquor traffic, in its economic, criminal, moral and scientific aspects, and to consider it in its relation to crime, pauperism, health, social conditions and the general welfare.

An important bill has been reported in the House from the Committee on Railroads and Canals. It proposes to regulate fares, freight charges, the speed of trains, &c., &c., by means of a commission appointed under the constitutional provision for regulating commerce between the States. The report which accompanies the bill goes into an elaborate argument to show the meaning of the constitutional provision, and its applicability in this case.

As the name of Philip Phillips is somewhat celebrated among religious lovers of song, it will not be out of place to say that his concert in this city disgusted the large audience that his fame had called together, and that he is universally denounced as a musical fraud.

The lecture of Henry Ward Beecher last night filled Lincoln Hall to the utmost, and many could not obtain seats. The President was among the audience. The lecture was one of Mr. Beecher's most brilliant discourses, and kept the house lively to the close. Mr. Beecher was among the callers at the White House yesterday.

OCCASIONAL.

NEBRASKA LETTERS.

The Soil and Country—What is Needed to Bring Prosperity.

CARLETON, THAYER CO., NEB.,
January 10, 1874.

EDITOR BLADE:—I have noticed in several numbers of the BLADE letters from different States, and lately one from Lincoln, in this State, and thinking it might interest some of your readers to hear from this part of Nebraska, I concluded to write a few items in regard to location, climate, soil, etc. We are situated on the St. Joseph and Denver City Railroad, 109 miles west of the Missouri River, and 20 miles north of the Kansas and Nebraska State line. Hebron, the county seat of Thayer county, is located on the Little Blue River, 10 miles southeast of Carleton, and 10 miles south of the Railroad. The Little Blue River is a very good stream for manufacteries, for it never gets low enough to stop mills. There are four flouring and three saw mills on it now in this county. The climate here is very healthy, as there are no swamps or stagnant pools to produce disease. A person traveling through this part of the country would not see very many patent medicine bottles sitting around on the mantle pieces, and physicians are hardly ever needed. The soil is very rich, producing as good crops as the older States. I think the Great American desert will make one of the best wheat-growing States in the Union. We shipped quite a large quantity of wheat this fall and winter, and I don't think there was any but what was of good quality. The farmers out here are beginning to get awakened to their interests somewhat; Granges are being very extensively started, and perhaps with their united efforts we will succeed in getting a fair price for our produce. When that desirable end is attained the sod dwellings that are now scattered over these beautiful prairies, will be replaced by large and convenient frame houses. All countries were new once, and early settlers have to endure privations and hardships, but the Nebraska pioneers are better off than those that carved their farms out in timbered countries. Nature gave Nebraska her share of timber, but the prairie fires destroyed it years ago; but it is my opinion that in ten years from now, with man's assistance, we will have as much timber as some of our sister States, and it will be more equally divided.

ROLLIN.

Under date of January 14th, another correspondent writes from the same place as follows:

EDITOR BLADE:—I have long been pleased with your advocacy in the Weekly BLADE of the course the people of the West and Northwest ought to pursue in regard to manufactures, and an article in the BLADE of January 8th, on the above subject induces me to send this communication to you, hoping you will see fit to publish it, in order to fairly place our wants before a reading public. Thayer county is in the Southern tier of counties in the State, and nearly one hundred miles west of Missouri River. The St. Joe & Denver City Railroad traverses it from east to west, there being four railroad stations in the county. The Little Blue River runs through it in a southeast course, it is estimated that the water runs from four to five miles per hour, and there is almost unlimited water-power on this stream. There is already three good substantial dams across the river in this county for mills, and a fourth dam not more than one hundred rods below the county line. These dams are on good rock bottoms, and two of them are built of rock.

The supply of water is always large. Last April, the population of the county was 1,600, and has been largely increased since that time. Now, in this entire State we have no manufacteries of agricultural implements, except one firm at Nebraska, that makes a breaking plow. The climate is healthy and the soil is fertile, and no energetic man need fear to enter into the manufacturing business. We really need manufacturing firms for the following: Farm wagons, plows, harrows, corn plows, Sulky hay rakes, all kinds of household furniture, harness makers, &c. In this county, there is but one shoe shop, two blacksmith shops, no harness shop, and no shop for the repair of wagons or any broken wood tools. The farmers can only ship wheat and meat because we are so far from market that it would not pay. Yet, I find tools here that are made in Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and even New York, and they must be paid for in wheat and meat. No State east of the Rocky Mountains can beat this for garden vegetables, and if we had our tool makers among us, we could furnish them all kinds of farm produce cheap, but now all of our garden truck that we can't eat must go to the hogs or cattle. I am personally acquainted with lumbermen in Indiana that would gladly ship us all the needed timber to make our farming tools. Cars could be loaded from the mills on the T. W. & W. Railway or T., T. & W. Railway, and come directly here without unloading. There is a R. R bridge across the Mississippi river at Quincy, and one across the Big Muddy at St. Jo, Mo. Good crops are raised here and we pay for what we buy. I have lived here three years and know what I say.

HOME PROTECTION.

LETTER FROM WYOMING TERRITORY.

Cheyenne—Its History and Present Condition.

We give below a very interesting letter from Cheyenne and hope we shall hear from Mr. HEALY again. We are glad to see our readers in different parts of the West taking interest enough in the progress of their States to lay it before the public, and we have no doubt letters will be productive of good, not only to the localities described, but also to the many who are thinking of going West:—ED.

CHEYENNE, Wyoming Ter.
Jan. 21, 1874.

EDITOR TOLEDO BLADE:—Being a subscriber to your paper, I have been glad to read the letters from different parts of the West, and I thought a short description of our city might be interesting to your readers. We are young but I propose to show that Cheyenne City, the Capitol and Metropolis of Wyoming Territory, is not altogether the insignificant little dot upon the map of our country, that the rapid and fleeting glance of the Tourist is apt to think it. In 1867-8 it contained a population of 10,000 but it was the then terminus of the U. P. Railroad. After this Road was extended West the population dwindled down to 6,000, but it was still the headquarters of a vast trade, and the centre of supplies for Forts Laramie, Russell, Fetterman, Reno, Pall, Kearney and C. F. Smith to the north and west; also the Denver, Pueblo, Southwestern, Kansas and New Mexico, besides a large local trade to Traders, Ranchmen, Stock Drovers from Texas, and Mountaineers and Lumbermen. In 1868 we experienced a conflagration that destroyed an entire block in the business heart of the city. Scarcely had the damage been repaired by the erection of more substantial buildings, when two entire blocks, including the new one, were destroyed in three hours, and five hundred families found themselves houseless and penniless. To add to the dismay of these repeated catastrophes, the explosion of a lamp on the corner of 17th and Eddy streets caused the loss of another half block, the fire extending half way on both streets, in the best part of the city. Notwithstanding all this, Fate seems to have had yet another grudge against the "Magic City," and to make the thing look equal, the opposite corner from the last conflagration burst into illumination one stormy night, and played havoc with another block. Of course hundreds, and I might truthfully say thousands, became discouraged and scattered all over the country, and sought homes elsewhere; but there was a class remained who never gave up, and believed firmly in its future growth, prosperity and commercial advantages. A glance at its geographical position, and topographical surroundings, will convince any one not prejudiced that it is destined, and at no very remote period, to be the commercial centre and entrepot for the whole Northwest. By means of the Union Pacific, the Central Pacific Railroad, and their respective branches, we are connected with the whole country from the Atlantic to the Pacific. By means of the K. P., Colorado Central, and the D. P. Railroads, we are connected with Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and an overland trade with Texas in the stock line. Our delegate to Congress, Col. Steele, has introduced a bill for the right of way for the Cheyenne, Iron Mountain and Helena Railroad which will connect us with Montana, Dakota, Minnesota, and the Northern Pacific. It will be seen that we are the centre of a comprehensive railroad system, as well as the natural centre of a wide scope of territory. We are half way between Omaha and Salt Lake City, and per consequence a commercial centre from the very nature of its location. After all the drawbacks mentioned, Cheyenne has steadily increased, the last two years especially, and large brick blocks are taking the places of the wooden buildings very rapidly. We have a $35,000 court house, a $15,000 public school house, two theatres, five churches, two banks and a population of nearly 3,000. During the monetary crisis the 1st National Bank, and the private bank of P. S. Wilson, came out of the ordeal with flying colors, notwithstanding that a few weeks previous the Texan stock drovers withdrew five hundred thousand dollars of deposit, to purchase their spring droves with. Our solid men have expended something over a million and a half dollars in the erection of brick business blocks and residences the past summer, which makes the substantial solvency of our banks all the more remarkable. Our whole territory is almost one vast mine, which fact the opening of the county north by means of the Cheyenne, Iron Mountain & Helena Railroad, will shortly demonstrate to the public. Thirty thousand square miles of Wyoming is a coal bed of several varieties, but principally of the Bituminous quality. Sixty-five miles from the city is situated Iron Mountain; literally a mountain of magnetic iron ore, assaying 85 to 90 per cent. per ton. Ten miles beyond is a Graphite or Plumbago mine, the richest probably in the world. It is hauled in here by wagon loads, and used as a fire-proof paint at present, but is destined to be a source of wealth at no late day. Besides, there are splendid agricultural lands to the north, vast forests of Spruce, Norway Pine and Cedar, while the Black Hills and Big Horn Mountains abound in gold, silver and copper. In short, and not to make this article too long, our Territory is the richest in minerals of any equal scope in the United States, not even excepting California. Cheyenne will ever be the great half way centre of trade and commerce on the plains, and is now, and ever will be, the largest and most prosperous city between Omaha and Sacramento—for as Salt Lake City is 40 miles north of the U. P. Road, I leave it out.

M. O. HEALY.

LETTER FROM ILLINOIS.

The Blade's Position on the Grange Institution—Notes from Montgomery County, Illinois.

EDITOR BLADE:—I notice you open your columns to the discussion of the Granges and the farmers' interests. I like the tone of your editorial on Western Manufacturing, and I am satisfied that the organization of joint stock companies, composed largely of farmers, is one of the surest ways to break down the monopolies of which the laboring man at the west complains. There is no reason why we may not have a fair manufacturing town in every county. Suppose every farmer who owns or carries on 160 acres of land, would take stock to the amount of one hundred dollars in some local company, it would not be long until we would be manufacturing the bulk of the articles which we use at home, and our home towns would be built up by the enterprise. We should add to our numbers a healthy and industrious population that would require to be fed, which would make a vast saving of wealth to the country, as compared with our present plan of paying so much freight and commission on the raw and manufactured material, as well as the food consumed by the operatives. There is no reason why the bulk of our wheat should not be ground at home. This would be economy to the producer. We need more bran, shipstuff and meal for use at home, for the use of young stock and milch cows. With our present method of feeding all corn, it requires a man a good part of the day to get around and milk enough cows to give a sufficient quantity to supply the family with milk and a poor quality of butter. But did we feed more ground feed and good hay, we should get a better supply from one cow than we do now from five or six; besides, our grain would net us more money. The matter of pork packing is another thing that demands our attention. There are many people that have not the proper conception of what they require for the year's supply of provision; consequently there are many who sell off near their entire stock of hogs on foot at a low figure. There are several profits made on them, as well as freight charges. At last they are in the packing house in the distant city, and are made into meat; and along next summer some of these same farmers have to have some of that same bacon shipped back to them at a high figure. Now, I argue, that hogs should have been killed at home, and kept there, and if there had been a surplus of good bacon it is not bad stuff to have about a small house. Then there are butter and cheese factories which have been proven to be paying to the companies and to those who furnish the milk, for they have raised the standard of the butter and cheese wherever they have been started, by a uniformity of the process. It is a well known fact that there is but few of the products of the country that have such a wide range of prices as does butter; from 8 to 10 cents for poor weeds, while some of the Eastern dairymen get from 40 to 75 cents for all they can make, and our Western factories get from 28 to 40. Also as regards the manufacture of plows, wagons and cultivators, in which we are now behind [illegible]

they manufacture at home, so the farmer could go to the shop and purchase what he wanted. It is a well known fact the freight on lumber is but a small per cent. of what it is on manufactured articles besides the liability of breakage. What we at the West want is, more manufacturers and more currency, more meadow and pasture, more fruit, less stock and less plowed land, and that properly tended. I am glad to see the BLADE manifest a disposition to help the interests of the masses of the people.

D. C. R.

Lulu, Ill.

The Michigan State Grange.

At Kalamazoo, Mich., Jan. 24th, the State Grange, which had been in session there some days, adopted the report of the Committee on Transportation, declaring that Railroads are amenable to State regulation as much as plank road and gravel road companies, and that the Legislature has as much right to regulate their charges as to fix turnpike tolls or the charges of millers for grinding grain.

It also declares in favor of the improvement of thoroughfares by the Government.

Accompanying this report is the following resolution:

Resolved, That while we deprecate any and all attempts to cripple or destroy the Railroad interests, we would recommend to them that our interests are identical, our prosperity is theirs, and we implore them not to kill the goose that lays the golden egg, by taxing us at exorbitant rates to enable them to compete with other great trunk lines leading from the West to the East.

The Grange adopted a declaration of principles declaring that the object of the organization is for the social improvement of farmers and their wives and children, and the advancement of their pecuniary interests; buying directly from the manufacturers, thus saving unnecessary commission to "middle men," and by encouraging the establishment of manufactories in their own midst. Touching politics, they resolved as follows:

Resolved, That the discussion of questions relative to the general interests of farmers and the right of petition will be exercised by patrons through the medium of the organization, leaving the elective franchise to be exercised by them as individual citizens outside the gate as their best judgment and enlightened wisdom may dictate; class legislation is deprecated, and it is declared that the public lands should be devoted rigidly to purposes of actual settlement.

A Wonderful Art.

The manufactory in Rome where pictures are copied in mosaic, being thus rendered almost everlasting, or time proof, is the most celebrated establishment of the kind in the world, some of its productions being little less than miracles of artistic genius, beauty, and skill. The mosaic is formed of tiny bits of opaque colored glass of various shades, amounting, it is said, to the almost incredible number of 30,000 different and distinct shades, themselves so arranged as to form a picture perfect in every detail—in light, shadow, shade, and color. It is described as corresponding, in some measure, to the pictures formed in Berlin wool. The various pieces of colored glass are placed in their pre-arranged order on a table covered with a sort of cement, and when this tedious process is over—for there are many thousands of pieces in each picture—the surface of the picture is then smoothed and polished. These are the main features, mechanically considered, of this wonderful art.

A Very Obedient Dog.

[From the New Orleans Republican.]

Late Tuesday night, a stranger, just for amusement, gave several bystanders specimens of his dog's acquirements, at the corner of Perdido and St. Charles streets. The master quietly, without gesture of any kind, told his dog to walk across the street, find a wagon, and get into it. Doggy obeyed, though reluctantly, as the wagon was a cart, but he finally complied. He was then told to hunt up a fire plug and mount it. His keen eyes searched a moment, and on the instant poor Tray pleased his owner. He was then commanded to hunt a lamp-post, and put his fore feet on it. This done he was told to go into the Pelican saloon, find a chair, and sit in it; then to look up a beer barrel and stand on it; then to lie down and act like a poisoned dog. These orders were given in the most common place tone of voice, and most of the time the beast could not see his master, yet he obeyed quite as readily as a willing servant, apparently understanding the English language very well.

Last year seventy-four per cent. of Michigan teachers were women, receiving thirty-five per cent. of all the wages, while twenty-six per cent. were men, receiving sixty-five per cent. of the wages. Over a third of rural teachers, and no small portion of city teachers are mere boys and girls under twenty, without experience or training, who ought to be studying at school.

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We can't Talk

without showing the condition of our teeth. Every laugh exposes them. In order not to be ashamed of them, let us use SOZODONT, which is sure to keep them white and spotless, and to give fragrance to every word we utter.

"United we stand," as the joined fragments said to Spalding's Glue.

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It will be seen from an advertisement in another column, that the Agent of the Public Library, Louisville, Kentucky, has over a million of dollars in Bank, and that he assures the public of a full drawing on the 31st of March next.

The list of gifts is exceedingly attractive and the high personal character of the manager is a guarantee that they will perform what they promise.

Neglected Coughs and Colds. Few are aware of the importance of checking a Cough or "Common Cold" in its first stage; that which in the beginning would yield to "BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES," if neglected, often works upon the Lungs.

Reader, do not pass heedlessly by, for you may see the day you will seriously need the assistance of KEARNEY'S EXTRACT BUCHU, should you be troubled with Bright's disease, diabetes, gout, gravel, dropsy, or any of those complaints which "flesh is heir to." We do not warrant wonderful cures, but give you the most reliable of remedies and saving known at the present day. If your druggist has none, send to 104 Duane street, New York, whereupon will receive advice gratis [illegible]

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FOR FEBRUARY

The February number, the second of the new volume, of *Lippincott's Magazine* fairly sparkles with brilliant, interesting, and attractive articles. In this number Mr. George MacDonald's long promised serial story, Malcolm, really begins. It is primal of the Scotch humor. Its characters are skillfully and clearly drawn. It is altogether a most alluring and captivating story, the author's best. The continuation of "The New Hyperion" maintains the universal interest already created—an interest which is constantly surprised and intensified by the singularly original and suggestive illustrations of Doré. "Public and Mansion," illustrated, is an interesting sketch of Napoleon's life at Malmaison and of his relations with Josephine, by Marie Howland. "A Western Sorceress," by will Wallace Harney, is a graphic and curious piece, descriptive of adventures illustrative of the feminity of second sight. "Two Marquises" by Reginald Wynford, contains a sketch of two Marquis of Hertford, who was the original of Thackeray's famous character, "The Marquis of Steyne." "How we Ate" is a charming story, by the author of "Blindfold." "Kismet," an Eastern poem by George H. Boker, will command universal attention. "Among the Alligators" is a lively Florida hunting sketch, by S. G. Clarke. "The Romance of a Tin Box," by Louis A. Roberts, is, as its title indicates, a very amusing story. "Modern French Fiction," by Francis Asheton, is an able critical article on a subject of constantly increasing interest. This number also contains "A Queen's Adventure," a very sprightly paper, by H. Davey, and "A Famine in the East," by Fanny B. Ferguson. "Our Monthly Gossip" in the February number is equal in style and variety to any of its predecessors, and to say that is to commend the Magazine to all readers of refined taste and good judgment.

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Reading for Little Folks.

Prissy's First Party.

BY MRS. A. W. CURTIS.

Prissy Tompkins was the happiest girl in the world. She was so happy she didn't know what to do with herself, so she just danced up and down and laughed and cried, and would have clapped her hands, only she couldn't, for she had something in them held ever so tight which she might lose if she didn't take care, and that would be the end of all her joy. What was it? A very old, brown, soiled bit of currency worth twenty five cents, which was *her very own*, to use just as she pleased, and she never had even a cent before in all her life.

This was the way she got it. A rich, gouty old man was walking slowly down the street when a huge dog came tearing along and knocked his gold headed cane out of his hand. Now almost anybody else could have picked up his own cane, and gone on without a particle of trouble, but this old man, rich as he was, could not stoop at all without the greatest probability of a general sprawl over the sidewalk, while it would then be impossible for him to get up without help. Prissy was close by, and she called out, "Wait a minute, sir, I'll pick up your cane." She handed it to him with a pleasant smile, and was running off again when the old man cried out, "Stop! stop! don't be in such a hurry!" She came back and he slipped that twenty-five cent bill into her hand and said: "You're a good little girl! go and buy some candy or a doll baby with that."

Prissy was so surprised she almost forgot to say "thank you," but she did in good time, for he walked so very slow. Then she ran home and told her mother all about it, and her mother said, "Yes, do just what you please with it." Now Prissy's mother was a widow, and she supported herself and child by washing and doing all sorts of odd jobs for people, and it was just all she could do to pay the rent and keep themselves in the plainest clothes. Bread, potatoes, and tea was their usual bill of fare, sometimes varied by a bit of meat or butter, so it is not strange that Prissy thought herself the most fortunate child in the world to have so much money for her own. As soon as she quieted down enough to sit still, she spread the precious scrip on her knee, and began to think what she would do with it. She thought first she would buy a doll, for she never had one in her life except a rag baby which her mother made for her long ago, and it was a dreadful looking thing. Then she thought she would like an orange and some candy and some raisins, and then she thought of a hundred things she had seen in the shop windows, which she would like very much. But the more she thought the more perplexed she grew, until all of a sudden she sprang up and ran to her mother with a shining face.

"Ah! mamma, I know. I know what I'll do. I'll have a party."

"A party, child; what could you get for a party with 25 cents?"

"Why, mamma, I can get ever so much. I don't want a big party, only Delia Roy, Molly and Matty Gray, and poor little Jamie; that's four, and I would be five."

"O yes, I see, you could have quite a little treat for five. Well, suit yourself, dear; I'll help you all I can."

Thereupon Prissy fell on her mother's neck and hugged and kissed her until she cried for mercy, and then sat down again to make arrangements for her first party.

"Well, mamma, I must have bread and butter, of course."

"Yes, and I will furnish those, else I fear you would not have much left for goodies."

"Will you? Oh! you are the best mamma in the world. When can I have the party?"

"To-morrow afternoon, if you like."

"Then I'll go this minute and invite them."

Prissy tied on her sun-bonnet and ran down the miserable old stairs and hunted up her little friends. She told them of her wonderful good fortune, and what she was going to do with her money, and they were almost as happy as she was over the prospect of a real party.

"Now, come early, so we'll have time for lots of fun."

"Yes, indeed, we'll be there right early," was the response. The next few hours until bedtime were full of anxious thoughts how to make the most of that money. Finally she concluded to wait and see what Mr. Brown had before she settled the matter.

Bright and early the next morning she went to the store and peered anxiously over his stock of goods.

"Well, dear," said good-natured Mr. Brown, "what shall I do for you this morning?"

"I'm going to have a party to-day, and I've got twenty-five cents to spend."

"A *party*? Whew! that will be fine! How many have you invited to your party?"

"Only four, and I'll be five, and mother's going to find the bread and butter."

"Yes, yes, I see, and you are going to provide the goodies. Well, what will you have?"

I just wish I could tell you what a time Prissy had making up her mind. It was early, so Mr. Brown was in no hurry, and it was a full half hour before she had completed her purchases, and the precious bit of money was transferred from her warm, moist little palm, to his money-drawer. Mr. Brown had to help her contrive it out after all, and she went home greatly pleased with her bargains. She bought two oranges, five sticks of candy, six cunning little patty cakes, twelve ginger snaps, and a bit of cheese, which, with plenty of good bread and butter would make a nice feast for her little party.

Mrs. Tompkins finished her washing early, scrubbed out the room, for they had only one, and fixed everything up as well as she could. There was a poor scrubby oak tree out in the backyard, and she climbed up on the ash-barrel and broke off a lot of branches, put one over the little cracked looking-glass, and hung others up around the room. Then she showed Prissy how to make pretty round mats out of the green leaves that would do for plates, for they hadn't enough for such a party, and they wouldn't borrow of their neighbors, no indeed! they felt above that. They didn't get a regular dinner that day. Prissy was too happy to eat, though she went to the cupboard and took a bite of bread and butter with her mother, for they couldn't have butter every day.

Prissy had hardly got on her best calico dress and her one white apron before her company came. Delia wore a bright yellow calico dress and hoops! and her hair tied back with a green ribbon, which made her look like a full blown sun-flower. Moll and Matty Gray were clean, but very much patched, for their father was a drunkard, and their poor mother could hardly get enough for them to eat. Poor little Jamie was a cripple, who could only walk on crutches, but he was such a dear, patient little fellow Prissy was glad to have him come to her party. His clothes needed patching bad enough, but his face and hands were clean as they could be. Prissy received her little friends very graciously. Perhaps there was just a shade of conscious superiority in her manner, but then it isn't everybody in the world who can afford to give a party, and this was her first and her very own party, all but the bread and butter. Mrs. Tompkins had some clean clothes ready to carry home that afternoon, so left them alone for two or three hours. They played "keep house", "Simon says thumbs up," and "button, button," and had the funniest tableaux that were ever seen. Nobody got "miffed," or lost their temper, and they just had the jolliest time in the world. When Mrs. Tompkins came back she made a partition across the room with her great clothes bars and some clean sheets and begun to set the table. Prissy endured it as long as she could, and then excused herself so that she might see to the supper. The rest couldn't play without her, of course, so they sat silently listening to every sound that reached their ears from over that mysterious partition. Very soon, it was folded up and set against the wall, and they were invited out to supper. How their eyes sparkled! What exclamations of delight burst forth from every one! Prissy was satisfied. She was prouder than ever a queen upon her throne could be. For, besides the two golden oranges cut in quarters and very tastefully arranged on the leafy plate, beside the patty cakes, the ginger snaps and the candy, to say nothing of the great plate of bread and the little pat of golden butter, there was one crowning glory which Mr. Brown had just sent to Prissy by his boy—six huge pink candy balls of pop-corn! They made a splendid centre-piece to the table, and Prissy's cup of joy was full to the brim. Mrs. Tompkins sat down with them, and told them funny stories about her first party, and helped them to everything, for they couldn't pass the oak leaf plates around. They saved their corn-balls and candy, wrapped them up in paper and carried them home to eat another time. Not one of these little people had ever been to a party before, not one of them ever had so many good things to eat at one time, and never, as long as they live, will they forget the delightful time they had at Prissy's first party.—*Hearth and Home.*

The Mormon Saints.

"The Saints are generally termed a very industrious people. I will admit that some are lazier than Digger Indians. They are industrious, but not energetic. Those who are endowed with energy are sure to be bishops, elders, first counsellors, or something or other, where they will have the handling of the thing, and are the corner-stones of the church.

"This tithing is a sort of tax upon each producer to defray the expenses of the government (*i. e.*, the church); and in this case the word means a tenth part of each family's earnings or produce. Thus, if a man raises ten bushels of corn, he must deliver the 'tithing, or one bushel, to the bishop of his town. From the store thus formed the bishop draws to entertain any travelers who happen along, as, he being the head man of the town, his house is as a hotel; all strangers are directed to it, as a rule, to 'put up.' Almost invariably he gets paid for his services by Gentiles; and it is not surprising, that, betwixt it all, a bishop is always the wealthiest man in a town; and without difficulty you can single out his house from the others by its greater proportions, finer finish, and best architecture, unless the town happens to be the residence of a 'president,' when *his* house will be the finest. So now, if any of you ever get into a Mormon town (as you will soon) where there is no hotel, steer for the best-looking house you see, and you will not miss the bishop's, where you will always find the best to be had. Perhaps a dance will be in progress as you ride up, if it is a frontier settlement where they have no large public buildings; though generally their fandangoes are held in the school-houses and meeting-houses, it being no sin, as dancing is a part of the creed. I will tell you about a dance I went to one Christmas night. It was held in a little stone building, which served as school-house and meeting-house, temple and tabernacle, city hall and a rendezvous for trading Navajoes. It was fifteen feet by thirty in width and length, and some twenty feet high. It was situated in one corner of an old fort or stockade; and its four windows, opening into the arena of the fort, glowed with an inviting brilliancy upon the night in question, when, after our ride through the chill wind, we galloped up. Strains of violins came merrily through the cracks. Flitting forms told that the fun had begun. Dismounting, we entered.

"Two sets were all the floor would allow in action at once; and they were skimming around lively enough. All round on seats sat young ladies and youths, old ladies and old gentlemen, with intervening gradations. Each of us received a number on entering, according to the rules; for, as but sixteen persons could occupy the floor at once, the male attendants were called up in regular succession by their numbers. You know I am always backward in such dashing assemblages; so I retired to a corner to watch how things progressed. The room was bare, with board floor and glaring batters, while across the latter lay a row of muskets ready for an emergency. Darkness was dispersed by three tallow candles stuck on boards against the wall, a kerosene lamp, and a roaring pine log in a huge fireplace.

"The violins kept up a constant flow of music, interspersed with 'Ladies, change!' 'Gentlemen, forward,' and the like; while the dancers, throwing off all formality, entered into the spirit of the occasion with a vehemence never seen in a fashionable ball room. Some burly fellows would come in from without just as their numbers were called. The room was warm. They doffed their coats instantly, grasped a partner with a word or two, and away they went, commencing with a bowing salute, varying and indescribable.

"The fair damsels too—clad in neat calico, radiant with smiles, their hair anointed with delicately perfumed pomades (butter) until it resembled patent leather, and formed on each temple an exquisite 'bean-catcher,' with red, yellow, blue, green, indigo, orange and violet ribbons flattering in the local whirlwind—were simply gorgeous. They sailed around like nymphs from fairy realm.

"About 1869, Orson Pratt invented what they call the 'Deseret Alphabet.' The book of Mormon was printed in it; and it was taught in the schools with the view of making it the sole system of the State. But it proved too much of a problem for the majority of the brethren, and so it dropped into obscurity; and I only obtained this volume through a friend in the ring. It is merely a system of phonography, with new signs; and, as the signs are all very complicated, it cannot be written without great labor.

"With another word I am done. The Saints have many faults; but they have been dogged around enough to compensate. They have utilized these valleys in the mountains, which would not have been done for years hence. Then let us treat them like friends, hoping that the problem of the extermination of polygamy may be solved with satisfaction to all by a new departure; or, in other words, by a revelation from on high.—*Oliver Optic's Magazine.*

How Children Talk Poetry.

We are all familiar with the facility of young children in coining words to suit their purpose. If one word is lacking another will suffice; so there is no end to the variety and quaintness of their expressions. We have a little fellow who saw two of his mother's music pupils in the street, and remarked: "Here come two of mamma's lessons." The idea was rather comical, two bouncing girls presented in such an abstract form. Looking at the moon one time, he said, "I don't like the moon to-night, it looks so shaggy," referring to the clouds floating around. Taking up a delicate fan that he could not use with much force, he said, "That hasn't got any cool in it." "Now, I am going to hose," taking up the water-pipe. Playing draw water from a well, we asked him what he was doing. "Welling," he replied, in an assured tone. Speaking of his toy soldiers, he remarked, "There's the drummer, and there's the flagger." He was washing his hands one day very rapidly, when I requested him to do something, and he answered, "Wait a minute, my fingers are all out of breath." The idea is sufficiently clear through its quaint drapery of language. He is anxious to know how they get the dinger (the clapper) in the bell. After transplanting, one of the plants looked rather drooping, and I said something about the leaves lying upon the ground, when he sagely observed, "I guess he feels tired." He is particularly fond of a Sunday-school hymn, having Hosanna in the chorus, but he rather surprised me one day by inquiring, "Hosanna, where does she live?" apparently misled by the termination. Reproved for some misdemeanor, he broke out abruptly, "God isn't in the sky now; he is dead;" the philosophy of some older persons in a nut-shell. Annoyed with the flies, he said: "If I was God I wouldn't make them; would you?" He went to an Episcopal church, and remarked on leaving, that "he did not like the minister to preach with his nigh'-gown on." He told us that the carpenters were "putting the roof on the cellar" next door, when they were laying the beams of the parlor floor. He had a watered ribbon for a neck-tie, and one day requested his mother to put on the rainy ribbon. This same chap is very much given to abbreviating, occasionally calling his grandfather "Gappy," but on one occasion he shocked our sense of propriety by exclaiming, "Gap, I want you to do this."—*Hearth and Home.*

Leather Work.

Put a piece of sheepskin in water for a moment,—a small piece, I mean, of course; then press it in a linen cloth until the surface dries. Cut out your leaf with scissors or a sharp knife, while the skin is damp, and vein it with some pointed instrument. You can make a nice pasteboard pattern from a natural leaf. After having cut, veined, bent, and moulded your leather leaves and petals, dry them quickly. When dry, brush them over two or three times with black varnish. Stems are made from strips of leather wet, and rolled over a wire; tendrils, from very narrow strips wound round a small stick; grapes, by tying bits of cotton, or wadding, peas, marbles, or any thing of the sort, into the leather with strong thread. They are fastened with wire, and great care is taken to arrange them neatly. Stained in the same manner as the leaves. The whole may be tacked or glued to the box, frame, or whatnot. I prefer the tacks as more durable and easier to manage.—*Oliver Optic's Magazine.*

Silent Lies.

"Boys and girls should always speak the truth" is often said by parents and teachers. Is that sufficient? There are many who never give verbal utterance to a falsehood, who yet act falsely, often blasting the character, and ruining the prospects of individuals in this world by their silence. How many persons by a cowardly silence, have acted lies; allowing an innocent individual to be wrongfully accused? To be truly noble, one must be true through and through; for "truth is a thing not of words only, but of life and being."

The Humor of the Day.

SERENADE.

The politician takes his lute and serenades his lady love as follows:

The moon is shining on the grange,
The winds are hushed, the leaves are still,
The patient stars look softly down
Upon my cot at Shannon Hill.
Then come my horny handed love,
And wander through the dell with me,
And gaze upon the Durham bull,
And listen to his pedigree.

Once I was in the railroad ring,
But now my hands are hard with toil.
I've scattered hay seed in my hair
And blacked my boots with harness oil.
And city cows have all gone dry,
I am no longer in my prime;
The day is drawing to a close,
And it will soon be milking time.

I think I know a new milch cow
That's just exactly what I need;
She's thin from running long on grass,
But only needs a change of feed.
I'll mix a mash of free trade bran,
Swindles, high taxes, and back pay.
And coax her to the ballot-box,
And feed her till election day.

With one to grasp her by the horns,
And one to hold her by the tail,
Oh, let me safely sit between,
And calmly fill my milking pail!
And when November breezes show
It's time my Berk-shire hogs to kill,
I'll move back into town again,
And sigh no more for Shannon Hill.

Virus' Candidate.

Soon after the first inauguration of Gov. Seward as Chief Magistrate of this State, Virus W. Smith, then and for many years afterward a potential man in the Whig party of Onondaga County, wrote to Mr. Thurlow Weed, requesting him to call upon the Governor, and ask him to appoint a certain man as Indian Agent for the Onondaga tribe of Indians. The person recommended by Mr. Smith was well known to Mr. Weed as one of those fussy, meddlesome, maladroit, pestilent fellows, nuisances to any party, whose only power is a power for mischief. He was therefore surprised at Mr. Smith's urging him for the position, and thought it could only have been done through ignorance of his character or misrepresentation on the part of others. Mr. Weed accordingly replied, expressing regret at Mr. Smith's request, in view of the objectionable character of the candidate, and begging him to suggest a more acceptable name. Next day Mr. Weed mentioned the matter to the Governor (who was equally cognizant of the man's character), and remarked that he had answered the letter, and the action for the present would be delayed. It was thought that this would bring Mr. Smith to Albany to look after the matter, as it did. On arriving he promptly called upon Mr. Weed, who expostulated with him as to the character of his candidate. "Nevertheless," said he, "if you make it a point that he must have the place, why, have it he must."

"Well, Mr. Weed, I am very anxious about it."

"But you know what a bad fellow he is?"

"Can't help it; he's my man."

"But can't you give some reason for your urgency?"

"No," replied Mr. Smith; "I do not care to do that."

"But the Governor thinks badly of this fellow, and certainly some explanation is due to him."

"Well, it's something I don't wish to talk about."

"Why?"

"Do you really want to know?"

"Certainly."

"Then, if you insist upon it, I'll tell you. You know there are among the Onondagas two parties, the Christians and the pagans."

"I am aware of it."

"Well, *my* man is a *leetle* in favor of the Christians. The pagans have found that out, and what is more, they have agreed among themselves that the moment he comes among them *they'll kill him!*"

"Virus," as he was popularly called in Onondaga, finally concluded, in the interest of humanity, to withdraw his candidate, and there was no assassination by the pagans of Onondaga.—*Harper's Magazine for February.*

The Man Who Bore off the Prize.

Who could have predicted that the chief honor coming to the United States from the Vienna exhibition, would fall to the lot of a quiet, hard-working citizen of a little town in Northern Vermont? But so it is. Medals and diplomas from the exposition are plenty enough, but the only American made a Knight of the Imperial Order of Francis Joseph, is Mr. Thaddeus Fairbanks of St. Johnsbury, Vt., the inventor of the Fairbanks' scales. And in singling him out for the distinguished mark of favor, the Emperor of Austria has shown a most intelligent appreciation of the value of his invention, the perfection to which it has been brought, and the rapid progress it is making toward recognition as the standard of all the world, as it is already of very many of the nations. Mr. Thaddeus Fairbanks,—or must we say Sir Thaddeus now?—is the only survivo of the brothers who originally constituted the scale making firm, and is the head of the present firm of E. & T. Fairbanks & Co. He is an old man now but he is still able to attend to business, and daily accomplishes more than many younger men. He will wear his new honors modestly, we are sure; and still continue, doubtless, to find his chief pleasure in his business, in the advancement of the educational and other interests of the town he has done so much to build up, and in the love and regard of his neighbors, who, worthy of knighthood as they know him to be, could not esteem him any more highly than before, if he should receive a decoration from every sovereign in Europe.—*Springfield (Mass.) Union.*

Shoes for the Austrian Army.

There is a large Government shoe manufacturing establishment outside of Vienna close to where the arsenal stands in the South of the town. And this establishment is a model of its kind, fitted up with all the newest inventions for cutting out cloth and leather and sewing by machinery. Above all, the department for shoes is carried on in such perfection that not less than 22 sizes and shapes are manufactured. This seems needlessly varied, but with so many races, so different in stature and build, it is almost a necessity. You have only to look at the lasts, and you see all the imaginable transitions from the broad, flat-footed German foot to the tiny, almost lady like Hungarian foot—dry, wiry, and with an instep so high as to be almost deformed.

It is stated that an Irishman called upon a New York disciple of Æsculapius and informed him that his wife was sick and required medical aid. The M. D. was willing to give his attention to the case, but desired the man to pay in advance or enter into an agreement to pay when his services were no longer needed.

"An' I'll kill or cure for twenty dollars?" said Pat.

"Yes."

Pat was satisfied, and left the M. D. to perform the contract. The woman died, and in due time the doctor presented his bill. Pat looked at it for a moment, and then asked:—

"An' did ye cure her?"

"No," answered the Physician.

"An' did ye kill her?"

"This was a poser, and the M. D. discovered that Pat had caught him. The bill has not yet been settled.

A western drover, driving a large drove of sheep to New York, was delayed on the road by stormy weather. Saturday night found him too far from the city to make the much-desired early entrance on Monday morning. He determined, therefore, to start on Sunday. As he passed a large old-fashioned meeting-house, the door of which stood wide open, a cosset-sheep ran into the door and up to the altar, where he stood and looked about as coolly as only a cosset-sheep could look. The drover said to his assistant:

"Jimmy, if you'll fetch that feller out I'll give you half a dollar."

Jimmy was bright, and knew his New Testament. Entering the edifice, he marched up and seized the stray quadruped. The minister stopping short in his discourse, said:

"Young man, do you know what you're doing?"

"Yes, sir," said Jimmy; "I'm separating the sheep from the goats!" and, suiting the action to the word, he marched him forth from the congregation.

"Got any medicine?" asked a boy, entering a store the other day. "Yes, lots of it. What do you want?" inquired the clerk. "Oh, it don't make any difference, so it's something lively. Dad is fearful bad." "What ails him?" asked the clerk. "Dunno," said the boy, "but he's run down awful. He just sits around the stove all day and mopes. He hasn't walloped mother since Christmas. I guess he's going to die."

'Mrs. Hopkins, why don't you sprinkle ashes on your icy sidewalk, like Mrs. Bedon, your opposite neighbor, for the benefit of passers by, and so imitate the good Samaritan?'

'Let the passers by imitate the priest and Levite, and pass by on the other side.'

'Your future husband seems very exacting; he has been stipulating for all sorts of things,' said a mother to her daughter, who was on the point of being married. 'Never mind, mamma,' said the affectionate girl, who was already dressed for the wedding, 'these are his last wishes.'

The father of Brigham Young was a Methodist, but an eccentric man. He wanted his children to be Christians; and as a means of making them such, he promised to give a sheep to the one who would kneel and make the best prayer. They all knelt, and Brigham obtained the prize.

Teacher—'Who was the first man?' Head Scholar—'Washington; he was the first in war, first in—' Teacher—No, no; Adam was the first man.' Scholar—'O, if you're talking of foreigners, I suppose he was.'

Referring to the present crisis, the New Orleans *Times* gives the following advice to parents: 'Husband your resources, and if possible, your daughters, also.'

A lady of the shoddy aristocracy at St. Joe, found on returning from a walk, some cards on her table. She called a servant in great haste, saying: "John, John, take these and run quick! them ladies is forgot their tickets."

The custodian of what had been Garibaldi's straw-stuffed bed in Ischia, was heard to mutter, on seeing a lady carrying away a few straws as a relic: "They will do it. I've stuffed it six times already since the General left."

A man from the country, whose wife had eloped and carried off the feather bed, was in Louisville in search of them—not that he cared anything about the wife, "but the feathers," said he, "are forty-eight cents a pound."

"He went through life," says Marrowfat's widow) weeping a tear of enthusiasm from the tip of her nose)—"he went through life a disappointed, broken-hearted man, but with the gleam of hope still glued to his eyes."

"He was a good man," says an Iowa paper of a deceased citizen, "but then he sometimes bet on the wrong horse, the same as the rest of us."

Popular Science.

Mind and Brain.

Dr. B. G. Wilder, in a paper read before the American Scientific Association, criticises the methods of studying the relations between brain and mind. The phrenological method is defective, because anatomy does not show any definitive correspondence whatever between the folds and fissures of the brain and the outer surface of the skull, and because the most expert phrenologists often fail to define character by the head. As for the pathological method, which compares brain-lesions with mental phenomena observed during the life of the individual, there is good reason for supposing that peculiar mental conditions may exist without recognizable brain-lesion, and *vice versa*. And Brown-Sequard says that all parts of the brain may, under irritation, act on any of its other parts, modifying their activity so as to destroy or diminish, or to increase and morbidly alter it. The experimental method, which irritates or destroys certain cerebral regions in living animals, merely demonstrates the existence in the brain of centres of action for different sets of muscles; it necessarily produces abnormal action, and fails to show the relation between brain and mind. Dr. Wilder would follow the example of phrenologists, in employing the brain itself for comparison, instead of the skull, using large numbers, and comparing the two sides. He would also employ canine instead of human brains, because of their simple fissural pattern, and the possibility of an accurate knowledge of the mental characteristics of dogs. Better results might be expected from the study of brains of persons with whom we were acquainted in life, but that is impracticable. Dr. Wilder does not believe in the localization of faculties in different portions of the brain, and inclines to the opinion that a cerebral hemisphere acts as a unit, either singly or with its fellows.

Cheap Gas.

It would seem that Russian ingenuity is likely to solve the problem of economically employing electricity for illumination, in place of gas and oils, a newly invented method for this purpose having just been satisfactorily tested in St. Petersburg. By this method, only one piece of charcoal or other bad conductor is required, which, being attached to a wire connected with an electro magnetic machine, is placed in a glass tube, from which the air is exhausted, and replaced by a gas which will not at a high temperature combine chemically sealed, and the machine being set in motion by means of a small steam engine, the charcoal becomes gradually and equally heated, and emits a soft, steady, and continuous light, which, by a most simple contrivance, can be strengthened or weakened at the option of those employing it—its duration being dependent solely on the electric current, which, of course, will last just as long a time as the machine is kept in motion.

Taking into consideration the fact thus alleged, that one machine, worked by a shall three-horse power engine, is capable of lighting many hundreds of lanterns, the assertion does not appear unreasonable that a very great advantage and profit would result from the illumination of streets, private houses, public buildings, and mines with this new electric light. For use in mines it is claimed to be invaluable, as no explosion can possibly arise from it; and these lanterns, it is also said, will burn equally as well under water as in a room. A most important fact remains to be mentioned, namely, that the calculations made show that this electric light can be produced at a fifth of the cost of coal gas.

Sensation of Starving.

For the first two days through which a strong and healthy man is doomed to exist upon nothing, his sufferings are, perhaps, more acute than in the remaining stages—he feels an inordinate unspeakable craving at the stomach night and day. The mind runs upon beef, bread, and other substantials, but still, in a great measure, the body retains its strength. On the third and fourth days, but especially on the fourth, this incessant craving gives place to a sinking and weakness of the stomach, accompanied by nausea. The unfortunate sufferer still desires food, but with loss of strength, he loses that eager craving which is felt in the earlier stages. Should he chance to obtain a morsel or two of food, he swallows it with a wolfish avidity; but five minutes afterward his sufferings are more intense than ever. He feels as if he had swallowed a living lobster, which is clawing and feeding upon the very foundation of his existence. On the fifth day, his cheeks suddenly appear hollow and sunken, his body attenuated, his color is ashy pale, and his eye wild, glassy and cannibalish. The different parts of the system now war with each other. The stomach calls upon the legs to go with it in quest of food; the legs, from very weakness, refuse. The sixth day brings with it increased suffering, although the pangs of hunger are lost in an overpowering langour and sickness. The head becomes giddy—the ghosts of well remembered dinners pass in hideous processions through the mind. The seventh day comes, bringing increased lassitude and further prostration of strength. The arms hang lifeless, the legs drag heavily. The desire for food is still left, to a degree, but it must be brought, not sought. The miserable remnant of life which still hangs to the sufferer is a burden almost too grievous to be borne; yet his inherent love of existence induces a desire still to preserve it, if it can be saved without a tax upon bodily exertion. The mind wanders. At one moment he thinks his weary limbs cannot sustain him a mile, the next he is endowed with unnatural strength, and if there be a certainty of relief before him, dashes bravely and strongly forward, wondering whence proceeds his new and sudden impulse.

Measuring Storms.

The following extract from a communication from Mr. Thomas Stevenson to *Nature*, shows the carefulness with which the interesting subject of meteorology is now being studied. The query at its conclusion may be put to American with as great propriety as to English readers: "The primary object of meteorology is to record the pressure, the temperature, the moisture, the electricity, and the movements of the atmosphere. It is desirable, however, that observations on these subjects should be combined with the elements of time and distance. At the general meeting of the Scottish Meteorological Society on June 26, 1867, I proposed the method, since generally adopted, of reducing the intensity of storms to a numerical value by the calculation of barometric-gradients, or in other words by dividing the difference of reading of any two barometers by the distances between the stations where such barometers are placed, thus introducing a nomenclature of universal application, by which the movements of any aerial current, and particularly the wind force of storms, may, in every part of the world, be reduced to one standard of comparison, and the calculation of thermometric, hygrometric, and electric gradients was subsequently proposed. Since then I suggested to the same society the extension of this system by the establishment of a series of barometers placed at short distances from each other in one or more than one direction in azimuth, so as to give horizontal atmospheric sections for pressure. By means of such lines of section the maximum gradient during storms might, from the nearness of the stations to each other, be ascertained, and thus the phenomena of local storms and other local atmospheric disturbances investigated with some hope of success; and since then a horizontal section extending landward from the sea shore has been proposed for temperature and moisture, chiefly with the view of determining the extension inland of the influence of the sea on climate. It would be important were the system of meteorological sections extended to the vertical as well as the horizontal plane. If a string of stations were placed at short horizontal distances from each other, and extending from the bottom to the top of a high hill or mountain, the section thus obtained would show the relative distribution at different times, of pressure, temperature, humidity, etc., in the vertical plane. Would it not be possible to secure funds for establishing at least one such atmospheric section on the slope of some steep hill or mountain in connection with a station or two on an adjoining level district of country?"

Imitation of Marble.

Imitations of marble are in great demand for ornamentation, and many different compounds are used for this purpose. Mr. Pichler, a gilder in Vienna, from his own experience, recommends the following as being simple and satisfactory: Into one pound of the best joiner's glue, boiled rather thick, half a pound of rosin (colophonium) is to be slowly stirred. (Instead of the rosin, the same quantity of Venetian turpentine may be used.) Into this plastic mass is worked a mixture of powdered chalk and of any mineral color of the desired shade, and after the addition of a little olive oil, it is ready for moulding. It is sometimes convenient to have the material in the shape of thin sheets, to be cut as required, and in this case the mass is rolled out upon a slightly heated plate. Mr. Pichler asserts that this composition hardens rapidly and can be easily polished. When kept for a length of time, it should be wrapped in a moist sheet and exposed to gentle heat before using. The variegated marble-like veins can also be produced by kneading together different ly colored portions of this mass.

Consumption.

Dr. MacCormac, of London, advances the theory that consumption, or tubercular disease, is caused solely by breathing air that has already been breathed. The contamination of air by carbonic acid, and other effete substances, diminishes its power to remove these from the body, and the detritus of degeneration being retained, becomes tubercle. He attributes the superiority of Vienna and St. Petersburg, as consumption-producing cities, to the universal use of close stoves, and the careful exclusion of air from rooms. M. Colleet concludes, as the result of tainty experiments, that the flesh of tuberculous creatures does not produce tubercle in healthy animals to whom it is fed. He believes that when experimenters produced different results, they either experimented on animals already diseased, or allowed the admission to their lungs of tuberculous matter through the air they breathed. M. G. Colvin concludes, from experiments, that the introduction of tubercle into the digestive apparatus of a healthy animal, will not produce tubercle in him.

Scientific Education.

Prof. Williamson, in a paper read before the British Association, proposed the following plan for more general scientific training: Let the most intelligent and studious children from every private school be sent, free of charge, to the most accessible secondary school, for one year; let the best of these be selected and allowed to continue for a second year, and so on. Let the best pupils from these secondary schools be sent to college, and let those who graduate, after a similar system of weeding out, be supplied with an allowance sufficient for their maintenance for one year, on condition of their devoting their undivided energies to research, under the inspection of competent authorities, while allowed such facilities as the college can supply, with the addition of money grants for specific purposes. Let all who do well the first year, be allowed similar advantages for a second, and even a third year.

A New Thermometer.

Les Mondes describes a maximum and minimum thermometer formed of a compound spiral, consisting of two differently expansible metals electro plated. By increase of temperature it tends to unroll by decrease, to twist up; in so doing it moves one or the other of a pair of indices over a gradual scale, the one of which registers the highest temperature attained, the other the lowest. If required, a third needle may be added, by means of which the actual temperature at any moment may be read off without disturbing either of the other pointers. The instrument is used at several meteorological stations in Switzerland and Russia, and gives great satisfaction.

GOSSIP.

Spiritualism is increasing in England.

Fossilized turtles are found at Burlington, Iowa.

Switzerland is to hold a world's fair at Geneva in 1875.

California is considering the abolition of capital punishment.

New Jersey's iron mines panned out ore to the value of $8,000,000 last year.

Fourteen thousand sons and daughters of Chicago were married last year.

Colt's revolver company is making a gun which will discharge 1,200 bullets per minute.

A bequest of $100,000 to the poor of Indianapolis has been made by Miss Bates, recently deceased.

The warm weather has started the crocuses out of the ground at Baltimore, and the roses are budding apace.

Fortune and fame
From nothing squeamish rise;
Steal, every chance—
There all the profit lies.

Owing to the extreme dull and blue times, an up-country druggist advertises to sell opium for seventy-five cents an ounce, and morphine for seventy-five cents a bottle."

During 1873 the police officers of Montreal made 12,085 arrests. Among the prisoners were 71 who, when asked in regard to their trade or profession, styled themselves gentlemen.

The widow of the English prize fighter, Tom Sayers, has been before a London magistrate, charged with neglecting to send the dead pugilist's three children to school. She was fined and imprisoned.

Horse-thieves in Texas, now-a-days, go in gangs, headed by a pretended clergyman, who gets up protracted meetings, and while the people are at the house of worship, the rank and file of the gang go for the stables.

The *Church Union* styles "hot and hot-ter" the fact that the First Unitarian Church of Baltimore, has had for its pastors, in the order named, the Revs. Messrs Furness, Bellows, Sparks, Blagrup and Burnap.

In 1858 a Sacramento man pawned a silver watch for $5, and though he has never at any time had a sufficient sum wherewith to redeem it, he has regularly paid monthly interest of fifty cents thereon, and finds that he has now in this way paid over $90.

Bazaine in Prison.

A correspondent of the London *Telegraph* gives an account of Bazaine in his prison on the Isle of Ste. Marguirite, in which he says:

"The ex-Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the Rhine is a prisoner in the strictest sense of the word, and no one has been allowed to see him with the exception of General d'Audel, from Nice, who paid him a visit, yesterday, and the Commandant of the Gendarmerie, who escorted him to the island but has now left. I am inclined to think, from inquiries I have made, that he occupies the very room in which the Man of the Iron Mask languished so many years; and that from the window over which the unknown prisoner flung into the sea the silver plate on which he had previously scratched his name and history, Bazaine now contemplates Cannes, and the luxuriantly covered hills of Cannet, backed by the splendor of the distant Alps. It is a lofty apartment, and not nearly so uncomfortable as might be expected: for it contains a fireplace and a large window, the latter grated, however, with three strong iron bars. The prisoner has been allowed a servant, a medical man when necessary, and a priest, for whom an altar has been erected, according to some accounts, at the end of the narrow passage from which the cell opens. These persons, together with M. de St. Mars, Governor of the fortress, the prisoner's family, and Colonel Villette, are, I believe, all who will be permitted to see and converse with the ex-Marshal for a long time to come.

A large and expensive spectroscope has been ordered from Dubuque, Iowa, for the Iowa State University.

Mrs. Lieutenant Philip Reed, formerly Miss Minnie Beals, of Topeka, Kansas, has made a successful debut as a singer in Florence, Italy.

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Farm, Garden and House.

Breaking Steers.

There has been a great deal of unnecessary talk, first and last, on the subject of educating animals to work. That it is profitable and proper to treat all farm animals with kindness is evident; and that they must be made to understand that obedience is imperative with them, is just as true. Our experience is that, with calves or colts, harness training, other than that they be made to stand quietly when tied, is not only detrimental, but decidedly injurious to their future usefulness. The reason is patent. Unless, after breaking, the animal is used sufficiently to keep it waywise, the labor is worse than thrown away.

Of late years, the working of cattle has been too much neglected, and, as a consequence, good, well broken oxen are relatively much higher than horses. Many farmers, however, are again turning their attention to this branch of farm economy, and they will undoubtedly find it amply remunerative, since oxen will not only do certain kinds of labor about the farm more economically than horses, but will also sell readily at any time, as working cattle, and be valuable for beef when no longer good for labor.

The usual way of breaking steers in the West is to take them at three or four years of age, yoke them together, sometimes three or four yoke, and putting a steady pair of well broken cattle behind, and another equally well broken pair as leaders, put them at any required labor, as logging, hauling loads, breaking prairie, trench plowing, or other work requiring heavy draught. They soon become waywise, and work quietly, but are never so thoroughly broken by this means to work singly as they would have been properly trained, as are horses.

To break cattle properly they should first of all be taught to lead quietly at the end of a halter, to stand, come forward, or back at the word of command. They should then be yoked together, and immediately thereafter, fed something they like, and be allowed to wander at will over the yard. When they get used to the yoke, take the halter of the near ox, and, with a light whip, guide them about the yard, touching the off steer lightly on the off flank or buttock, and, at the same time, indicating with the halter what you want to the near steer, calling the name of the off beast when you touch him, as "Haw, Buck." So with the near one as "Haw, Bright." Nothing more nor less. So, if you want them to turn to the right, the off animal should be tapped lightly over the face with the word "Gee, Buck," immediately followed with a touch on the flank of the near ox, with the word "Gee, Bright." This must be persevered in, firmly but without harshness, until the steers understand what you wish.

If you want them to back, stand at the shoulder of the near ox, and, tapping them alternately over the head, use the word "Back," calling at the same time their names. If they are required to go straight ahead, allow them to proceed quietly. If one lags back, he must be tapped on the back or rump until he comes forward, with the words, "Get up," "Go on," or whatever other short words are to be used—always, however, using the same words. If one of the cattle is eager, he must be tapped over the face, for obedience must be imperatively enforced, but never harshly. If whipping is ever necessary, it is not while the animals know but little, if anything, of what you want.

When your steers are somewhat handy, they may be hitched to a light sled, and taken on to a road of field where they may be exercised; afterward they may be put to a wagon and driven to light loads, always being careful not to give them so much that they cannot draw or back it anywhere. They must be accustomed to a quick pace for, as they are trained, so will they always hold. Indeed, if of proper breed, and if fed oats, they are capable of a speed for short distances of seven and eight miles per hour.

A more easy way of breaking them, and well adapted to ordinary circumstances is, after sufficient training to somewhat gentle them, to place them behind a thoroughly-trained fast walking pair of cattle, and use them daily for any of the ordinary Winter work as hauling hay, fodder, wood, etc. They may soon be placed on the lead, and, if there are two or three pairs of steers to be broken, they may be used thus alternately and during a Winter's work, they will become thoroughly broken and tractable except that, as single cattle, they will not work so promptly in turning to the right and left; and especially, they will not be broken to back promptly at the word. This can only be accomplished by taking the pairs singly, and educating them specially thereto. They will soon learn to obey as far as they can hear the driver's voice. By this plan of training, any farmer may have cattle far more safe and tractable than the ordinary farm horse.—*Western Rural.*

Co-Operative Farming.

The idea that farming can be conducted on any kind of a co-operative plan, seems at first view, absurd, and few farmers would listen to such a scheme. But, taking a closer view, it will be seen that co-operation has already commenced, and that so far it is highly successful. For instance, the best and the principal part of the cheese produced in the country is made by co-operation whether the farmers sell their milk, or put in their milk and receive their pay in dividends when the cheese is sold, for both plans are adopted. Country merchants have now almost ceased to buy cheese, and well enough, too, for they are without proper means of taking care of it; many of them are such poor business men, or they have so little capital, that they can not afford to pay what cheese is worth; and, formerly, when they dealt in it, many of them failed. Butter is also made in factories in the same way; and even when made in families it is bought by special dealers, who take it at the house and pay cash for it. This is of great advantage to the cause farmer, for he is able to pay cash for whatever he may need, and he can trade where he likes. If progress is made with like success in this manner for a few years, the country merchant will buy neither fruit, hops, nor vegetables, and he will sell but few groceries or farm machinery, for these can be bought as they now are in many sections, at wholesale. Grain could be sold to the farmers of a district of township at wholesale, and at better prices than they now get in the retail way, and buyers can afford to pay better prices; for this way of doing business drops out first, the country merchant; second, the small dealer, making two middlemen, and, of course, their profits are saved to the Farmer.—*Tribune.*

Steam and Agriculture.

The application of steam as a motive power in agriculture is a problem which, so far, has been but partially solved. We may and do saw wood, thresh and winnow grain, and grind food, but the great desideratum, the economical cultivation of the soil and the transportation of farm produce by steam, has yet to be accomplished. And this, we fear, is to be attributed to a want of preliminary activity in the farmers. The agricultural mind, in spite of a powerful and intelligent press devoted solely to its enlightenment, will stick to the old and run in grooves, and in the progressive march of all the mechanical genius it has, rust and poaching, fat is the fear.

In almost all mechanical pursuits, from turning a grindstone to tunneling mountains of granite, steam is the great motive power, and yet the agricultural mind has not yet discovered a mode of applying its omnipotence to the cultivation of the soil in a way to be within reach of the average farmer, and why is this? Because the agricultural mind cannot get out of the rut in which it runs, and divest itself of the idea that the old fashioned plow, with mould board, share and coulter, is the only implement with which it is possible to cultivate the earth.

In our issue of Dec. 19 brief mention was made of an implement invented by Mr. Bleeker, called by him—improperly, we think—a rotary plow. It is not a plow at all, but a rotary digger. We did not see the machine in operation, but give entire faith to the certificates attesting that, with two horses it comminuted the ground thoroughly to a depth of eight inches at the rate of one acre per hour. Be this as it may, we believe that the invention of this rotary digger is the first step toward the discovery of a method of cultivating the earth by steam power within the reach of moderate means. Every reader of agricultural papers is aware of the fact that efficient steam plows have now for some years been in use in England, but they are only within the reach of large capitalists and of *combinations of smaller farmers.*

We had the pleasure, when in Egypt, of making the acquaintance of Mr. Fowler, the eminent civil engineer and builder of steam plows. He had been sent for by the Khedive, who is certainly the ablest ruler in the Eastern Hemisphere, while he is the largest planter in the world, to consult with him upon the advisability of cultivating his immense cane fields with steam plows; and Mr. F. was then negotiating with his Highness to do the plowing himself at so much per acre, the exact amount we do not remember.

In conversation with Mr. Fowler, we suggested the formation of a joint stock company to be located somewhere West of the Mississippi, for the unbroken and reselling the land at an advance after it had been broken up with his steam plow. The company was also to undertake to break prairie sod for private parties at so much per acre. Mr. F. was much pleased at the idea, and may soon carry it out. In the course of one of our conversations, Mr. F. remarked that all great enterprises and internal improvements were successfully carried out by means of co-operation, and, "I am surprised," he continued, "that you Americans, whose enterprise often amounts to temerity, do not apply the principle of co-operation to agriculture, particularly on your great Western plains, where there is so much homogeneity in soil, climate and other conditions. A vast expense would be saved in costly enclosures, and the steam plow, even in its present imperfect state, would enable you to dispense with the horse and mule, the most expensive machinery used in agriculture. One common pasture would serve for the copartners, family necessaries could be purchased at wholesale prices, and the net proceeds divided pro rata among them."

We offer the practical suggestion of an eminently practical man in the hope that it may germinate in the American mind and bear fruit. It certainly appears to us to be a short cut to the object sought for with so much eagerness by the farmers' granges.—*Turf, Field and Farm.*

How Much Food for a Horse.

The amount of food necessary to support an animal varies with age, sex, temperament, the climate, the amount of work it does, and various other conditions. The quantity needed to carry on the functions of the body, when at rest, has been very accurately determined by long continued and careful experiments. The result of these labors I cannot give in a clearer or more condensed form than by translating a passage from Magne's work on the subject, with the weights changed from the French standards to those in use in our own country.

M. Boussingault kept a horse weighing 990 pounds for a month, without increase or diminution of weight on a ration composed of hay 16½ pounds, oats, 5 pounds.

M. Boussingault admits (the hay was a second crop) that his ration contained 5 ounces of nitrogen, and we value at 5¢ pounds the carbon contained in the respiratory elements; hence it follows that it represented very nearly 22 pounds 11 ounces of hay; in other words 4½ pounds of hay for each 100 pounds of the weight of the animal.

By measuring the carbonic acid exhaled by animals we can prove the values deduced from the amount of nourishment consumed.

Considering the works of various authors and his own experiments, Ahlbert concludes that a horse weighing 1,320 pounds exhales in 24 hours 5 pounds 7 ounces of carbon, equal to 6½ ounces for every 100 pounds of the horse's weight (his is nearly the amount of carbon that we have shown to be contained in 2 pounds of hay,) that a horse weighing 1,100 pounds exhales in 24 hours 5 pounds 9 ounces of carbon, equal to eight ounces for every 100 pounds of the horse's weight (quantity contained in 2 1-5 pounds of hay.)

Basing our conclusions on these different observations; we believe we can admit that the ration necessary to sustain a horse (without work) is, for each 100 pounds of the weight of the animal:

1 pounds of hay for a horse weighing 1,100 lbs.
2 pounds of hay for a horse weighing 1,320 lbs.
2¢ pounds of hay for a horse weighing 1,540 lbs.
2¾ pounds of hay for a horse weighing 1,760 lbs.

The ration of support is then greater for the small animals than the larger ones; if this is not sufficient, the animal is nourished at the expense of its own substance, and becomes poor. With every animal it is only the nourishment consumed in excess of the ration of support that gives useful products, consequently there is advantage in having a given work done in the shortest time, and by a small number of animals, strongly fed, in order to diminish as much as possible the nourishment lost as ration of support.

The $10,000 Cow.

The short-horn cow, Eighth Duchess of Geneva, that was purchased at the late New York Mills sale by Mr. R. Parvin Davies, of Gloucestershire, England, has again changed hands and will remain in America, a part and parcel of the herd of Colonel Lewis G. Morris, of Fordham, New York. It seems that Mr. Davies' agent, being unaccustomed to our currency, in the excitement of the sale, became confused as to the relative value of dollars and pounds sterling, and bid far beyond his author zed limit. On his return to England his principal wrote to Mr. Campbell, requesting him to dispose of the cow for his account on as favorable terms as possible. Upon hearing of this, Col. Morris at once offered the lady that Long Sacchariside paid for his prominent purchase, $66,000, which was accepted. In addition to this cow, we learn from C. Morris that he has purchased Thirteenth Duchess of Thorndale, Twelfth Maid of Oxford, Third Countess of Oxford, and several other females of prominent breeding, that were disposed of at the New York Mills sale; also that he has purchased the young bull, Duke of Oxford, from Mr. Ezra Cornell. These make a strong combination, and add prominence to the Seneca herd.—*Spirit of the Times.*

Poultry as Farm Stock.

How many farmers might obtain plenty of new poultry accommodations by simply making use of the buildings they already possess, and how many farmers consider fowls unworthy of consideration because of some supposed difficulty or expense in erecting suitable houses.

And, worse than this, how many farmers try to make poultry pay without any result beyond continual vexations, merely from lack of ingenuity in bringing ordinary appliances into play. "Why bother," they ask, "about raising chickens in cow-sheds and outbuildings, when you can set out as many coops as you like on the grass of a paddock, the gravel of a stable yard, or upon the scattered rick-yard straw?" Because, generally speaking, half your chickens die under the common farm yard treatment. They get wet feet and die of cramp; they drink the high-colored soak water of manure heaps, of straw-yard drains and other filthy slops, and consequently sicken and die by dozens.

A Prolific and Profitable Bantam.

Either from great care in feeding, petting, coaxing, or from the natural liberal disposition of the hen, a little Staten Island girl of ten years has the following statistics to show for her past-time attentions to her feathered pet. During the season the bantam has produced ninety-three eggs, and is now surrounded by a family of thirty chickens, and if all survive till the estimated moneyed value, according to average prices, will be, say eight dozen eggs, 25c—$2; and thirty chickens, 30c—$9. Total, $11. Moral for ten year old misses: Eschew cats, kittens, and four legged puppies, and pet the old hen for profit and pleasure.—*N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.*

Miscellaneous.

MORRISON R. WAITE.

A Sketch of the New Chief Justice.

From the Cincinnati Enquirer (Democratic.)

Hon. M. R. Waite, the Senate having confirms his appointment as Chief Justice is the third contribution of Ohio to the Supreme Court of the United States within the last twelve years. Of him, as of his predecessors, the State of Ohio is proud, with good reason. Mr. Waite is President of the Ohio Constitutional Convention, and since its session in this city many of our citizens have had the pleasure of making his acquaintance, and have learned to esteem the man whose fame came before him as one who, at the Geneva Tribunal of Arbitration, had, in reflecting honor on his Nation, thrown a luster on Ohio, the theatre of his professional life. Morrison R. Waite inherited legal ability. He was born at Lyme, Connecticut, on the 29th of November, 1816, and has just passed into his fifty-eighth year. His father, Henry M. Waite, was twenty-three years one of the Supreme Court of Errors in Connecticut, the last three of which he was Chief Justice.

His preparation for college was made at Bacon Academy, Colchester, Connecticut. In 1837 he graduated at Yale, not with first honors at Yale College, but with high rank as an oration man. After graduating he studied law one year with his father, then in 1838 moved to Maumee City, then the county seat of Lucas county, Ohio. There he studied in the office of Samuel M. Young, with whom, when admitted to the bar in 1839, he entered into a law partnership under the firm name of Young & Waite, which continued till 1850, the firm moving in 1850 with the county seat to Toledo. In 1850 the partnership of Young & Waite was dissolved, and about a year later he formed a partnership with his brother Richard Waite, under the firm name of M. R. & R. Waite, which continues to the present the same, except that his son S. E. Waite has become the junior member of it.

Mr. Waite has neither sought or shunned political life. He never chose it, for he preferred practicing his profession. In 1849-50 he was a member of the Ohio Legislature. By inheritance and preference he was a Whig until the first days of the Republican party, when he joined its ranks. Though never a partisan his convictions were strong and he generally assisted his party in election campaigns. In 1846 he was defeated for Congress in a contest with William Sawyer. In the year 1862 he was prevailed upon to run as the conservative Union candidate, against Jim Ashley, Radical Republican, and R. E. Phelps, Radical Democrat, and though he got all except five hundred votes in the City of Toledo, was defeated by Ashley.

His last political service was as the associate counsel of Hon. Caleb Cushing and W. M. Evarts in the Geneva Arbitration. Though the session of the Arbitration lasted from June 15 to September 15, 1872, the counsel were on the ground in October, 1871, and spent the intervening time in preparing the case. With what honor he came off from this contest fame has trumpeted and two continents know.

His person is an exponent of his mind—compact, solid, vigorous and healthful. He is of medium stature, stout, but not over-large, erect, of bilious temperament, dark complexion, eyes and hair, and the picture of health and vigor. His face is strongly marked, and expressive of good-nature and firmness. There is nothing stiff or forbidding in his manner; on the contrary, his dignity is of that unconscious, inviting sort which is the very antipode of assumption.

Those who know him best describe him as a man of great legal learning, severely logical mind, and a vigorous thinker, though not what is called a brilliant man. His mind is one of the kind that never leaves off developing while life lasts. His business habits, they say, are extremely systematic, but he himself gives all the credit of this system to his brother and junior partner in the law firm to which he belongs. That of a hard worker, but not an overworker, is another characteristic his acquaintances attribute to him. By recreations, which are chiefly social, he has kept his mind elastic and his body strong. As a man of sterling integrity, spotless moral life, an intelligent conscientiousness, which is carried into all the acts of his life, he enjoys a reputation to be coveted. Well balanced in mind and temper, he has the most perfect self-control and a rare facility in winning and holding friends.

Mr. Waite and his wife are members of the Protestant Episcopal Church. He has two sons and a daughter. One son, whom we have mentioned, is his law partner in Toledo. The elder, Mr. C. W. Waite, is superintendent of the Muskingum Valley Railroad, and resides at Zanesville. His daughter, who with his wife, have been stopping with him at the Burnett House during the Convention, soon impanels him to Geneva in 1871. The daughter remained, residing in different parts of Europe and visiting Palestine and Egypt, and returned a few months ago.

At the Convention on the 20th the news of his nomination was first communicated to him at the moment of calling that body to order. A few minutes later, Hon. Rufus King read to the Convention the Associated Press dispatch announcing the appointment of Mr. Waite to the Chief Justiceship. That body hat its gravity, and went to cheering and clapping hands wildly. The demonstration was prolonged. Mr. Waite was the only quiet man in the house. As soon as the applause subsided, Mr. Sam Hunt arose and proposed a committee of five to express the views of the Convention on the subject. President Waite promptly decided the motion out of order and the business proceeded. The ordeal was somewhat trying to the President's nerves. It proposes suddenly a change in the order of the world, which takes him away from his friends, associations and occupations of over a third of a century, and plunges him at once into the highest honor and greatest responsibility in the gift of the nation. The man who met without quailing, and withstood, to the admiration of the English bar at Geneva, before one of the greatest tribunals of modern times and came off with a triumph which sheds a luster on his country, trembled in the midst of his friends at news of new honors and new responsibilities.

THE INDIANA TRAGEDY.

Col. Thomas N. Stilwell Shot and Killed by John E Corwin—Terrible Scene in a Bank Office.

[From the Indianapolis Journal.]

Col. Stilwell had been in the country several miles visiting a friend, Ben. Sebrel. In company with that gentleman, he started for town about noon, arriving in Anderson shortly before four o'clock. They stopped at a barber shop, Mr. Sebrel wishing to get shaved, when they met Mr. Jones, ex-Mayor of the city. Mr. Sebrel evidently realized the danger of allowing Col. Stilwell to meet Mr. Corwin in his present condition, knowing that he was under the impression that Corwin was instrumental in procuring the indictment against him, and requested Stilwell not to leave the barber shop until he (Sebrel) had been shaved. This the Colonel promised to do and sat down with Mr. Jones. The latter gentleman soon left the shop and the Colonel immediately followed. He went straight home, however, where your correspondent had an interview with him. The Colonel had just read the Indianapolis papers, and was inclined to converse on the subject. The conversation turned upon the indictment, which he had not seen, and he denounced as outrageous and ridiculous the charges contained in the document. He said the bank seldom or ever had $20,000 in its vaults, and certainly never $40,000, as he is charged with having on the 10th of January. He was somewhat excited in talking of this matter, but otherwise appeared as the writer had often met him under ordinary circumstances. He said the liabilities of the bank were amply provided for by $196,000 of assets which he had placed with the Receiver. To cover his personal indebtedness he had also assigned to Mr. McCullough property valued at $80,000. The Col. said that after the affairs of the bank were all settled and his personal obligations satisfied, he would still possess from $125,000 to $150,000. He seemed utterly amazed at the charges contained in the indictment, and said he had not drawn $10,000 from the bank during the year. He talked freely but on no other topic save the indictment.

STILWELL LEAVES THE HOUSE.

Your correspondent arose to leave in company with Mr. Trees, when Col. Stilwell suddenly announced his intention of going up town. He had been sitting with his overcoat on, his pantaloons tucked in his boots and a pair of arctics on, but unbuckled. His daughter handed him his hat, and his wife asked him if he wouldn't take off his arctics, as they rattled so. He answered "No," and started out of the house. His daughter asked him if he intended to return for dinner, to which he answered, as he went out of the door, "I don't know." From the conversation which had just closed, his family and those present were under the impression that he was going to the clerk's office to read the indictment. As he crossed the street he was seen to take his revolver from his hip-pocket and place it in his outside overcoat pocket. Mr. Trees remarked: 'My God, he is going over to shoot Corwin; that's what his friends have been afraid of ever since his first difficulty with Corwin." Mr. Corwin's office is situated immediately across from, and north of, the public square, and just around the corner from Stilwell's residence, in a building formerly occupied as a bank by Neil McCullough.

THE SHOOTING.

Stilwell walked in a rapid and determined manner to the door of the room, then stopped for a moment, then walked a few steps past. He again stopped, and returned to the door, which he entered and closed after him. Almost immediately the report of a shot was heard, followed, after an instant's delay, by two others. A gentleman standing in the street, a few rods distant, said: "Well, he has done it." For a few minutes no one was attracted to the spot, and then as the news of the awful tragedy spread, an immense concourse of citizens gathered around. Court was in session just across the street, and the room was speedily emptied of its hundred or two spectators, no one but the judge, jury, counsel, parties to suit, witnesses and officers of the court remaining. A brief delay occurred just at this time while waiting for a witness, and one of the counsel sought to secure an adjournment, it being near 5 o'clock, and stated that the fact that a man had been shot and killed within speaking distance would probably render all parties somewhat averse to proceeding. Judge Cravens refused to hear the motion to adjourn, saying the death of a thousand men should not interfere with the court.

WHO WERE PRESENT.

When the shooting was done there were in the bank a Mr. Rittenhouse, of Indianapolis, connected with the grocery house of Robertson & Perry; Lake Burr, Mr. Corwin's partner in a spoke and hub factory, and young Howell, Mr. Corwin's clerk. When Mr. Stilwell entered, Mr. Burr and Mr. Corwin were conversing at the counter, while Mr. Rittenhouse and Howell were writing at a stand behind a wooden partition which extended across the room to nearly its entire width. Mr. Rittenhouse says that when Stilwell came in he said nothing that he (Rittenhouse) heard, but that his attention was first attracted to the two men by hearing Corwin cry out, "Don't shoot, Tom," and climbing over the counter. Mr. R. thought they were fooling, and was only aroused to the true condition of affairs by hearing Stilwell's pistol go off close to Corwin's leg, and while the latter was grasping Stilwell's pistol hand. Corwin then grasped Stilwell's coat-collar with his left hand, swung him around so that the side and back of his head were nearest him, and deliberately shot him twice in the back of his head, both balls coming out near the junction of the nose and eyes. Corwin then let go his victim, who fell to the floor, dead. Mr. Rittenhouse was at first, as may well be supposed, terribly frightened, and ran out of the room and across the street, laboring for some time under the impression that he himself had been shot. He then thought to return and gain possession of the books and papers, which he did before the crowd gathered.

Mr. Burr's account of the shooting is substantially the same as the one given, save that he is unconscious to have reported that when Col. Stilwell entered the room he said to Corwin: "Let's settle that difficulty between us now," or something to that effect. The boy Howell could not be found after the shooting up to the time your correspondent left.

THE SCENE IN THE BANK.

The scene in the bank was a terrible one. On the floor lay the inanimate form of him who but a few moments before was in the enjoyment of health, and little thinking that so soon as world he would be numbered before his Maker. The orgies of destruction had done its work well. The back part of the head was laid open, and the brain was oozing therefrom. The ugly face was covered with blood issuing from the two holes, and giving the corpse a most repulsive appearance. The crowd began gathering in the room, and, in their anxiety to catch a glimpse of the dead man, broke down the partition as well as the counters, glass guards and other furniture. Finally the room was cleared, and preparations were made for removing the body to its late residence. The family had been notified of the sad event within a very few moments after its occurrence, and in less than half an hour after leaving them in good health, and every promise of a long life, Col. Stilwell was received a corpse by his grief stricken and almost heart-broken wife and children. Kind friends were present to administer to their needs, and sympathy on all sides was profusely offered.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. CORWIN.

When your correspondent left the residence of Col. Stilwell, it was his intention to seek an interview with Mr. Corwin, but the one that he finally did have with that gentleman was under far different circumstances than were thought would surround it. After shooting Col. Stilwell, Mr. Corwin put on his hat and walked across to the court-room, where he gave himself into the custody of Sheriff Ross. He was found walking up and down the narrow space allotted to the clerk, immediately to the right hand of Judge Cravens. When asked to state what Col. Stilwell had said upon entering the room he sharply asked the correspondent why he wanted to know. Mr. Corwin was told that he wanted to know for the reason that he represented the Indianapolis *Journal*, and was endeavoring to get at the whole truth in the matter. Whereupon Mr. Corwin bitterly assailed the correspondent for misrepresenting him in the dispatch of yesterday, and stated, as his belief, that it had incited Col. Stilwell to the desperate attempt to murder him, which had resulted in his own death. [In this Mr. Corwin did the correspondent great injustice, and attached undue influence to the dispatch. The statements made therein were based upon interviews with several persons in Anderson fully conversant with the whole difficulty between himself and Col. Stilwell. And it is well known that ever since his arrest the latter considered Mr. Corwin responsible for its procurement, and has openly stated it a number of times.] Mr. Corwin was very much agitated, and almost wild at the thought of what he had done; but in broken bits of talk he said that when Stilwell entered the room he advanced with his pistol and said: "G—d a—n you, Corwin, have you had enough of this thing?" or "is this at an end between us?" Mr. C. not being certain which. He reached over the counter with his hands, crying: "Don't shoot, Tom, don't shoot!" and caught the Colonel's pistol hand. He then climbed over the counter, the Colonel endeavoring to get his weapon in range to fire. Finally the latter did fire, the ball going through Corwin's coat-sleeves and pantaloons into his left hand pocket, where it encountered a handfull of keys and coins, which prevented it from entering the flesh. The ball struck the stem of a door-key, and was pounded out of all shape by the contact. Mr. Corwin found the ball when feeling for the wound, being under the impression, for some minutes, that he was really shot. He said that, after firing the first shot, Col. Stilwell struggled to free his hand, and then, finding that it was either his life or his adversary's, he drew his own revolver and fired. What the effect of the shot was he did not know, or seemed not to know, for he said to the correspondent, "They say he is dead; but, my God, that cannot be!" When told that it was true, he said that he had been expecting this encounter for two years; that his friends had recently told him to go armed to meet Col. Stilwell, as the latter had threatened to shoot him on sight. He was in much anguish of spirit over the dreadful result, but inquired: "What was I to do?" I only thought of my wife and children in the struggle. Oh! it is terrible, the thought of killing a man!" Mr. Corwin said that ever since he had been in Anderson there had been a determined opposition to him, which manifested itself in many unpleasant ways. He said it seemed to be found on the fact that he was an Eastern man and that local prejudice obtained against that class.

The Coroner's jury returned a verdict of just five dollars.

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News of the Week.

WASHINGTON.

General and Mrs. Pope arrived in Washington Monday evening from Fort Leavenworth, having come on invitation of the President to spend a week at the Executive Mansion.

In accordance with the idea of the Patent Convention, which recently closed its sessions in Washington, it is proposed to establish a branch association with as little delay as possible in each State or Territory, the President of which shall be Vice President *ex officio* of the National Association. An effort will be made to hold an International Patent Congress in Philadelphia, at the time of the Centennial.

The House Committee on Civil Service will report a bill reducing the Deputy Commissioners of Internal Revenue from three to two, and providing that the vacancy of the office of First Deputy be filled by the appointment of one of the existing Deputies.

In the Supreme Court, on the 20th inst., in the case of Day vs Miron et al., the court held that in the proceedings in the confiscation of the property of Judah P. Benjamin, of Confederate notoriety, there was not sufficient notice to Benjamin's mortgage, and therefore affirm judgment below sustaining the title of the mortgagee as against Day, the purchaser under the proceedings. In the case of Bougree vs. John Slidell, also known in Confederate history, and others, the discussion affirms the judgment below, holding that the confiscation of the property of Slidell passed only a life estate, and did not affect the title of his children and heirs.

The Military Committee agreed to report a resolution recommending and requesting the President to appoint a Board of five officers to investigate the affairs of Gen. Howard in connection with the allegations against him embodied in the recent letters of the Secretary of War.

The Postmaster General has replied to a resolution of the Senate with regard to the franking privilege, &c. He says the net sales of official stamps for the next fiscal year, to cover the transportation of matter formerly sent through the mails under the franks of heads of departments, are estimated at $2,250 000. A comparison of the receipts on four items, during the quarter ending September 31, 1873, with those on the same items for the corresponding quarter of the preceding year, shows an aggregate increase of $1,668,445, and an increase, exclusive of official stamps, of $614 012. Thoroughly impressed as he is with the belief that the repeal of the franking privilege was a wise measure, and will be productive of the best of results in the postal service, he earnestly recommends that it be not restored until at least a fair trial can be made. In his last report he recommended a reduction of postage on books to one cent for two ounces. If that suggestion should be adopted, he cannot see why postage should not be paid upon Congressional documents, as well as upon departmental matter by an appropriation from the Treasury. In the case of a return to the distribution of field and garden seeds and public documents, the Postmaster-General recommends that they be transported as freight in other than mail cars. He also recommends the free transportation of weekly newspapers within the counties of their publication, which has been heretofore forbidden.

The question of the right of the Secretary of the Treasury to draw on the $44,000 000 reserve, has been discussed by the Committee on Ways and Means, who have agreed to present the subject to the House and have it settled there. They will present a resolution, however, fixing the limit of the National legal tender currency at $44,000,000. This will prevent the return to the Treasury of any of the $45,000,000 that has been paid out.

The Senate was in Executive Session for an hour and a quarter Wednesday, Jan. 21st, engaged in consideration of the nomination of Morrison R. Waite as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Senator Edmunds and the two Ohio Senators (Sherman and Thurman) spoke in favor of the confirmation, showing a concurrence of views in Mr. Waite's integrity, fine legal attainments, and his suitable temperament as a Judge. Senator Sumner alluded to the solemnity of the occasion in connection with advising and consenting to the appointment of Chief Justice, and said that owing to the importance of the subject, considering the weighty matters before that great tribunal, it became them all to be duly impressed with the fitness of the gentleman whose name was before them. He was gratified to learn such favorable reports of Mr. Waite from those who knew him better than he did. No remarks were made by any Senator in opposition to the nomination. On the question, "Will the Senate advise and consent to the appointment?" the vote was unanimous. Yeas—63, as follows:

Senators Allison, Anthony, Bayard, Bogy, Breman, Boutwell, Brownlow, Buckingham, Cameron, Carpenter, Chandler, Clayton, Conkling, Conover, Cooper, Cragin, Crozier, Davis, Edmunds, Fenton, Ferry, (Conn.) Ferry, (Mich.), Flanagan, Frelinghuysen, Gilbert, Goldthwaite, Gordon, Hamilton, (Texas), Hamlin, Hitchcock, Howe, Ingalls, Jones, Kelly, Lewis, Logan, McCreery, Merriman, Mitchell, Morrill, (Me.), Morrill, (Vt.), Morton, Norwood, Oglesby, Patterson, Pratt, Ramsey, Ransom, Robertson, Sargeant, Saulsbury, Schurz, Scott, Sherman, Spencer, Stevenson, Stewart, Stockton, Thurman, Tipton, Wadleigh, West and Wright.

Absent or not voting—Senators Alcorn, Ames, Dennis, Dorsey, Hamilton, (Md.), Johnston, Sprague, Sumner and Windom—9.

The Committee of Ways and Means have prepared and will report a resolution to fix the amount of greenbacks at $400,000,000, including the reserve, thus keeping it within the limits of the law prior to 1866. They deem it just to the country that the limit should be absolutely fixed.

The President has approved the bill repealing all parts of the salary act of March, 1873, except such as increase the salaries of the President and Justices of the Supreme Court, thus restoring the compensation of members of Congress and others to the former rates.

A rumor has again been in circulation that changes will soon occur in the Cabinet, and it is stated that Richardson will soon resign his position in the Treasury. The report lacks official confirmation and that fact, in addition to the knowledge that Richardson, has with a few days avowed that he entertained no intention of resigning his present office, renders it almost certain that the rumors are based upon no solid foundation.

The following is the text of the bill reported by Mr. Dawes, from the Committee on Ways and Means:

WHEREAS, The existing uncertainty as to whether the amount of legal tender notes now authorized by law to be kept in general circulation is $350,000,000 or $400,000,000, is calculated to derange the business of the country and unsettle values, therefore.

Be it enacted, &c., That the provisions of the law existing prior to the passage of the act approved April 12, 1866, entitled "An act to amend an act to provide ways and means to support the Government" (approved March 3, 1865), be, and the same are hereby declared to be in force, so as to utilize the amount of legal tender notes of the United States to the amount of $400,000,000, to be kept in general circulation, and the total amount of United States notes issued or to be issued shall never exceed $400,000,000.

Major General Pope was before the House Committee on Military Affairs on the 22d, and gave his views against a reduction of the army.

The Secretary of the Treasury has written a letter to Senator Chandler, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, stating by invitation of that Committee his views on the subjects covered by Senator Fenton's bill to regulate the customs service and the dispositions of fines, penalties and forfeitures. Secretary Richardson goes into an extended discussion of these and collateral subjects, and recommends the following measures: 1st. A revision and consolidation of tariff acts; 2d. Substitution as far as practicable, of specific in lieu of *ad valorem* duties; 3d. The abolition of the present system moieties, with one exception, to wit: That where attempts at smuggling are detected or where the act of smuggling is accomplished and goods are afterward seized, the seizing officer or officers, and informer or informers, if any, shall be entitled in equal part of one-tenth of the net proceeds, or if there be no informer, the seizing officer to be entitled to the whole of such one-tenth; 4 That a provision be made for a special fund to be applied, under suitable restrictions, to the compensation of private persons affording information which shall enable the Government to detect and punish frauds upon the customs revenue other than those involved in actual or attempted smuggling; 5. That the law authorizing the seizure of books and papers be so amended as to afford due protection to the rights of private parties; 6. That no compromise of any fine, penalty or forfeiture, occurring from a violation of the Navigation or Customs Revenue laws shall be awful until after judicial investigation of the facts; and 7. That the compensation of custom officers be graded in accordance with the importance and responsibility of their respective positions.

A delegation of silk manufacturers from New Jersey and Pennsylvania, were before the Committee on Ways and Means on the 23d, with reference to the silk bill now before the Committee. They want a uniform duty of 60 per cent on silk and ribbons, and on fabrics of both silk and cotton combined. They ask such an increase of taxation as will protect them from foreign competition.

The Senate Committee on Judiciary have been engaged in perfecting amendments to the Bank Law, which have already been reported, and which they expect to call up in the Senate for action some time next week.

Wm. Orton, President of the Western Union Telegraph Company, has concluded his argument before the Senate Committee on Postoffices and Postroads, in opposition to the Hubbard postal telegraph scheme.

The Senate has confirmed the following nominations: David McM. Gregg, of Pennsylvania, Consul at Prague.

Public Land Officer—Thomas Chapleigh, Register, Detroit, Mich.

Indian Agent—W. D. Crothers, Indiana, Mescalero Apache Agency; William E. Davis, Assistant Treasurer of the United States, Cincinnati; A. B. Underwood, Surveyor of Customs, Boston.

Mrs. Dr. Guthrie was heard before the House Committee on Judiciary on the 23d, in opposition to the enfranchisement of women in the District of Columbia and elsewhere. She held that the ballot in the hands of women would demoralize society, undermine the State, and tend to detract from the finer qualities of the sex, and consequently destroy woman's usefulness as a mother, wife and citizen. This lady made several attempts to be heard in Lincoln Hall during the recent Suffrage Convention. She alluded to the fact, and thanked the Committee upon concluding her remarks for according her a privilege which she had been denied by her own sex.

The National Board of Health Council adjourned *sine die*, after having adopted a report, including the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Council, no measure could be presented for legislation more important in its results on the health of the American people, than that of a properly regulated National Sanitary Bureau.

"*Resolved*, That this Council do approve of early legislation by Congress, looking to the establishment of a National Sanitary Bureau, and the Committee is hereby instructed to prepare a suitable law to be introduced into the present Congress, and to urge its adoption.

"*Resolved*, That the members present be requested to communicate with the Senators and Members of their respective States and Districts, and urge upon them the importance of the proposed measure, and invoking their earnest co-operation."

The members by appointment called upon the President. The President replied to the address of the President of the Association, and said that it was not his province now to say more than to express the wish that their objects might be successful.

The President has appointed the following named persons as cadets from the United States at large to the Military Academy at West point: Walter Stone Alexander, son of Lieutenant Colonel Alexander; J. Walker Benet, son of Colonel Benet; James R. Rawlins, son of General Rawlins, late Secretary of War; Charles J. Messmore, son of Col. Messmore; William E. Almy, son of Commodore Almy; Frederick L. Foltz son of ex-Surgeon General Foltz; George C. Strong, brother of General Strong; William English, son of Lieutenant Colonel English; and John Greene Lugenbeel, son of Colonel Pickney Lugenbeel, and Lawrence J. Hearns, son of a former Sergeant of the Fifth Infantry, as first and second alternates to supply the place of either of the above appointees who may fail.

Lieutenant-General Sherman arrived in Washington Saturday night, in obedience to a summons of the House Committee on Military Affairs, before whom he will give his views concerning the organization of the army. It is known that he is in favor of an increase rather than a reduction of the force, if the Government intends to continue its policy of protecting the exposed settlements.

There were only twelve or fifteen members of Congress present at the adjourned meeting of the friends of cheap transportation Saturday night at the capitol. Representative Dunnell was in the chair. One gentleman thought the meetings would amount to nothing practical unless union of action could first be secured on some one scheme. The advocacy of different projects could produce only confusion and defeat. Finally it was agreed to adjourn till Saturday night next, and in the meantime exertions will be made to secure a large attendance.

It is stated that the details of the Louisiana Election bill have been somewhat changed, disposing of the Congressional Commission of one Senator and two Representatives, but authorizing the President to appoint the Commission, to consist, it is supposed, of military officers.

It is expected that the Judges of the Supreme Court will soon take a recess. The new Chief Justice will take his seat on the re-assembling of the Court.

THE EAST.

The grand jury in New York having been informed that sugar refiners were in the habit of using deleterious substances in putting up their syrups, has ordered an investigation by the Health Committee.

The Principal Anthracite Company in New York, voted to conduct the business the coming year the same as last year, increasing the price ten cents per ton monthly. A schedule of prices was adopted for March, substantially the same as for the opening month of last year.

The College Rowing Association at Hartford, voted nine to three in favor of the Saratoga course at the next regatta; Amherst, Dartmouth and Harvard voted no.

At New York, Jan. 22d a cable dispatch stated that the Santa Ana Bay Company had negotiated in London a loan for $5,000,000, and as a part of the negotiation the Company agree to take up the Hartmount bonds which had been repudiated by the Baez government.

At Boston, Jan. 22d, a meeting of consumers of iron and steel, was well attended and an organization to promote their interest was formed, and a constitution and by-laws adopted. The constitution declares the object of the association is to secure legislation in the interest of consumers of iron and steel, but strictly forbids the use of money for that purpose. The President is Geo. Bartos, of Syracuse, and among the Executive Committee is M. L. Fast, of Canton, Ohio. The following was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Association respectfully petition the Congress of United States to reduce the duty on steel, and to make imports wholly specific without regard to value.

At Old Lyme, Connecticut, the birth-place of Judge Waite, the citizens, on the 22d, fired a salute in honor of his appointment and confirmation as Chief Justice.

The custom receipts for the week ending January 17th, were: At New York, $2,518,504; Boston, $238,135; Baltimore, $102,512; Philadelphia, 1,757,695.

At a meeting, the Presidents of the different coal companies have agreed as follows: For this year trade will open on the 1st of March at an average advance of 15 cents per ton above the prices of 1873. The price per ton will be afterward reduced each month to the end of the season on the following scale: April, 5 cents; May and June, 10 cents, and July, August, September, October and November, 15 cents.

Suits involving $150,000 is pending in New York before a referee. The litigants are Ten Broeck, R. H. Douner, and L. N. Clark, Jr., a Louisville banker, and Branton Duncan. Gen. Broeck's wife, who was married in Rome, died two years ago in Kentucky, leaving all her property, valued at $150,000 to her husband. The testimony is to impeach the deeds made by Mrs. Ten Broeck. Suborning witnesses is one of the charges. Ten. Broeck and counsel, and the counsel from Kentucky for the litigants are in the city.

The marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh with the Princess of Russia was recognized in New York by the British and Russian Consuls unfurling the flags of both nations from their offices, and the ships of England and Russia in the harbor were fully decked with bunting and bannerets.

The following is an exhibit of the proceedings in bankruptcy in the United States Courts, with a statement of the cases in bankrupcy in said Courts, and their disposition, from March 2d, 1867, to Dec. 31, 1872: Number of petitions filed in 1867, 7,345; in 1868, 29,538; in 1869, 5,921; in 1870, 4,301; in 1871, 5 438; in 1872, 6,074; total, 58 613. Number of discharges granted, 38 747. Fees and expenses of assignees, $1,003,002. Fees and expenses of clerks, $942,792. Fees and expenses of Registers, $1 768 346. Miscellaneous expenses, $104,688. Total expenses, $4,821,784. Number of cases pending Jan. 1st, 1874, 15,411.

The gain to the stock of coin in the country during the first six months of the current fiscal year, is given at about $30,000,000 gold, and $1,000,000 silver. The number of trade dollars issued was $1 125,000.

The Superintendent of Police of New York, while admitting that some danger of a disturbance still exists among a portion of the unemployed workingmen, denies all knowledge of any foundation for the statement that an order has been issued for the protection of Churches, owing to information of threats made by Communist leaders; nor does the Captain of the Precinct in which the Convent of St. Catharines is situated, know of the foundation for the rumor that that institution was to be burned by the more desperate of the Communist leaders. A large force of police, however, was held in readiness last night at headquarters, convenient to the Convent.

Within a short time nearly a dozen forged certified checks on the First National Bank of New York have been received. They are signed by H. H. Winship and W. A. Callaway. The forger during the past week has been operating West.

THE WEST.

The Ohio Con. Convention at Cincinnati has completed the amendments to the Judicial Article. General Ewing introduced a new section, introducing proportional representation in the election of Supreme Judges, the discussion of which will occupy the remainder of the week.

The Grand Jury of Hamilton, Butler county, Ohio, has found bills of indictment against the following ex-County Officers in the sums named: Adolph Schmide, ex-Auditor, $25,000; R. N. Andrews, ex Sheriff, $3,600; William Russell, ex-Treasurer, $2,000.

Chief Justice Shannon, Thursday afternoon, after a lengthy argument by the counsel on motion for a change of venue in the case against Winternaute, the murderer of Secretary McCook, refused to grant the order.

Chief Justice Waite met a reception at the Chamber of Commerce of Cincinnati on the 22d inst. He received a great number of letters and telegrams containing congratulations.

The Daily Commercial Bulletin of Chicago, contains its third annual estimate of the packing of the West. Returns 389 points received, and 21 additional estimated, give the total packing of hogs to date as 4,700,000; estimated for the season, 5,304,000. The hogs packed this season are equal to 4,774,000 of last year's average weight. Estimated decrease in average weight, 10 per cent., showing a decrease of 175,000,000 in the aggregate weight. The decrease in the production in hams, shoulders and sides, is estimated at 110,000,000 pounds. The falling off in the yield of lard is estimated at 7 pounds per hog, an aggregate decrease of 46,000,000 pounds, equivalent to 143,000 tierces.

The steamer Relief, of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's line, was lost on the 9th inst., on a voyage from Yokohoma to Shanghai. The passengers, officers, crew, mails and treasure were saved. The vessel was small, and reported not worth more than twenty thousand dollars.

The plan of relief for the Southern Pacific Railroad, soon to be introduced in Congress, is briefly as follows: All lands of the Company to be sold by Commissioners appointed under the authority of the United States, and the proceeds placed in the Treasury to the credit of the Company, the Government to retain the amount charged for the transportation of mails and carrying service. The Company ask the United States to guarantee the interest on five per cent. bonds running for 30 years, to limit the sum per mile. In consideration of such accommodation the Company propose to pay to the Government a liberal percentage on the gross earnings, thus securing the Government from loss.

THE SOUTH.

A Memphis dispatch says: The Supreme Court of Mississippi have unanimously decided the late election to be Constitutional. The decision was given orally, but will be reduced to writing.

Advices by mail from Savannah give the particulars of the boarding of the brig Margaret, of and for New Orleans, by a boat of the Spanish gunboat Transcrip'. On the log-book reads: Saturday, Jan. 10, at 3 a. m., while under short sail and waiting for daylight, Morro bearing south by west, distance 10 miles, we were boarded by officers from the Spanish gunboat, who demanded a full account of the cargo, where from, and whither bound, the name of the vessel, and the captain. This conversation was held in the cabin. On getting on deck, the officer ordered the hatches taken off, which was promptly refused and the officer informed it could only be done under protest, at which the officer got into his boat and returned to his ship.

The officer remained thirty minutes on board the Margaret. The Captain says the officer behaved very politely, and that the gunboat remained near him until almost daylight, when the Captain squared sails and entered the harbor of Havana and informed Consul General Hoe of what had occurred. It is said that Admiral Scott wrote the Spanish Admiral inquiring why the act was committed and informing the Admiral that he could not allow the boarding of peaceable merchant vessels, it being clear that no suspicious craft would remain under shortened sail within a few miles of the principal port of the Island. It is reported that the Spanish Admiral disavowed the proceeding of the commander and sent a suitable apology to Commander Scott.

In Galveston, Saturday morning, in the Criminal Court, the case of the State vs. J. B. Helm, charged with the murder of John Ferguson, was called, and owing to the non-arrival of witnesses, was held. While waiting, Johnny Ferguson, son of the murdered man, approached the prisoner between the railing and table unobserved, and pulling out a five-shooter, shot the prisoner Helm in the head, killing him almost instantly. Young Ferguson was arrested and is now on trial.

The following is the decision of the Postmaster General on the question of who is Governor of Texas:

"AUSTIN, Texas, Jan. 23.

"Postmaster General, Washington, D. C:

"Hon. Richard Coke, recently elected, and his appointees are in possession of the offices of Governor, Secretary of State, and Adjutant General. Gov. Davis and his appointees claim that they have been illegally and by force dispossessed of said offices. Both parties claim the mail matter addressed to the same office. The conflicting claims present embarrassing questions, and in order that I may properly decide them, please say by telegram distinctly and positively to whom I shall deliver the mail matter addressed as follows: first, 'Governor of Texas;' second, 'Governor E. J. Davis;' third, 'Executive Office;' fourth, 'E. J. Davis, Governor of Texas.'

"H. B. KINNEY, Postmaster.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.

H. B. Kinney, Postmaster, Austin, Texas:

"After consultation with the President, I direct that all mail matter addressed to the Governor of Texas shall be delivered to Richard Coke, and all mail matter addressed to Governor E. J. Davis, E. J. Davis, Governor of Texas, shall be delivered to E. J. Davis. Similar action should be taken as to the other State officers.

JOHN A. J. CRESWELL,
Postmaster General.

On the 19th, Sergeant-at-Arms Shropshire, of the Senate, accompanied by several deputies, proceeded to the different offices of Texas, and took possession. When he demanded the keys from Newcomb, he refused them, and it became necessary to arrest him, but after surrendering the keys and other property of his late department, he was released. Gov. Davis had previously left the Executive Office, leaving only a clerk therein. The clerk, after arrest, surrendered the keys. In the Adjutant General's department, Britton made no objection, yet asserted positively: "You may be acting rather fast." Newcomb exhibited considerable excitement. His fire-place was full of papers burning. Governor Coke was frequently congratulated. There seems to be a general feeling of thankfulness that the people of Texas have at last possession of their own. The Public Instruction Department was released, because the votes for Superintendent of that department were not counted. There was among the late officers a firm determination to ignore even the opinion of Attorney-General Williams, they only giving up the keys after being arrested, and then under verbal protests. General Steele now has the Adjutant General's Department, Captain George Clarke, that of the Secretary of State, and Governor Coke, the Executive offices.

FOREIGN.

Great Britian.

Mr. Washburn, the American Minister, on behalf of the French residents of Philadelphia, presented ex-President Thiers with a gold medal on the 19th. In his speech, Mr. Washburn alluded to the friendship of France for the United States during the Revolution, and eulogized the French people who have taken up their residence in the United States for their manifestations of confidence in him, and declared the Republic was the only government possible in France, consequently the bond of Friendship between the two nations would be made stronger.

George H. Whalley, Member of Parliament, has written to the papers persisting that the statements made by Jean Luie during his examination as a witness for the Tichborne claimant were true, and expressing his belief that the so-called confession made by Luie in his subsequent trial on a charge of perjury, was obtained by bribery. Whalley has been summoned to appear and answer to a charge of contempt of court.

A deputation of workingmen, headed by Joseph Arch, waited upon Gladstone and urged the propriety of extending the elective franchise to agricultural laborers. Gladstone expressed himself as in favor of their object, but advised them to be patient, pointing to the magnitude and weightiness of the measure, and the brief duration of Parliament.

Professor Goldwin Smith, in a speech at an educational meeting in Manchester, explained and commended the common school system of the United States.

The Times publishes the substance of a note from Prince Bismarck, which holds the French Government accountable for the violence of the Ultramontanes in France.

At London, Jan. 23, flags were displayed from all public and many private buildings, in honor of the marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh At Windsor Castle, The residence of the Prince of Wales, at Sandringham, and other buildings of the royal family were profusely decorated.

Parliament is dissolved by Royal Decree. Gladstone has issued an address to his constituents at Greenwich, asking for a resolution, and announcing that the Queen had been pleased to accept the advice of her ministers to dissolve the present Parliament immediately, and summoned a new one to meet on the 5th of March, 1874. In his address Mr. Gladstone gives as a reason for this measure that since the defeat of the Government upon the Irish Higher Education question by the concurrent efforts of the leader of the opposition and the Catholic prelacy in Ireland, the Government has not been possessed of sufficient authority to carry out great legislative measures. Its experience during recess of Parliament has not indicated that any improvement in its position was probable. The chief of the opposition having refused to accept office on the defeat of the Government, and the Cabinet feeling that they have not the support which every Ministry ought to enjoy, an appeal to the people is the proper remedy for such a state of things. The advantage of dissolution at the present moment is that the estimates are so far advanced that the Government is able to promise a surplus of £5,000,000, with which it intends to abolish the income tax and to relieve local taxation. Among matters likely to come before Parliament are the re-adjustment of the educational act, the improvement of local government and of the land, game and liquor laws. The address promises a large measure of relief from duties on articles entering into general consumption, and expresses a hope for a speedy assimilation of country with the borough franchise.

A London dispatch says of the Royal wedding in St. Petersburg: "The English festivities are generally postponed until the arrival of the bridal couple. Excepting by special services, salutes, and ringing of bells, London took little notice. The provinces manifested greater joy. In most provincial towns there were banquets, processions, peals of bells, bonfires and gatherings. Edinburg was brilliantly illuminated. In many places the Crimean trophies were removed."

A special from London to the Glasgow Globe says the dismissal by the Home Secretary of Dr. Henry Bell, of Lanarkshire, has caused a serious difference of opinion between Gladstone and Lowe, which will probably result in the retirement of the latter from the Government.

The London Telegraph has a long account of the Memorial Mass at Chiselhurst, on the 9th inst., on the occasion of the first anniversary of the death of the Emperor Napoleon. After disposing of the crowd that attended, despite the wind and rain, and the celebration of the mass the Telegraph says: "At length the moment came for the removal of the body to the Lady Chapel; and while the choir sang softly, the members of the Imperial household grouped themselves around the coffin, and preceded by priests and bishops surrounded by candles, and midst a cloud of incense, bore it slowly to its last resting place. It seemed to be the desire of the Emperor that he should be laid in French soil, even though he might be buried in England, and in obedience to this desire earth had been brought from the garden of the Tuileries and placed in the bottom of the sarcophagus. Into this the coffin was lowered. The Bishop, duly attired in mitre, rochet and pall, advanced, and scattering upon it a little French soil incensed the tomb, sprinkled it with holy water, and pronounce the absolution. The Prince Imperial, who had remained a spectator of the ceremony, from the place he first occupied, here almost broke down under his emotions, which crowded upon him, and it was nearly a minute ere he could be called upon to approach the tomb of his father. Meanwhile, Father Goddard advanced to the vestry, and now appeared on the altar steps supporting the widowed Empress, who was bitterly weeping. The bishops, attended by priests, came forward at this moment, and placing the hand of Her Majesty in that of her son, conducted her to the little chapel, where she took the last long look at the coffin, sprinkled it with holy water, and then retired, followed by the Prince and her suite. Hereupon, the congregation moved gradually forward, passing one by one through the Chapelle Ardente, each in turn taking advantage of the privilege accorded by throwing a little consecrated water upon the coffin, and so quitting the edifice by a small-sized door, which opens into the churchyard.

The Imperial household had, however, yet another duty to perform, to which only a few of the friends of the late Emperor were admitted as witnesses. Fondly hoping that the day may yet come when the remains of Napoleon III., like those of his great uncle, will rest beneath the dome of the invaders, they deemed it their duty to ensure that the coffin should not be surreptitiously removed, and thus it was that in their presence the slate slab which forms the inner lining to the cover to the sarcophagus was fastened in its place with cement, the four corners being further secured with black wax stamped with the Imperial seal. Nothing now remained but to place the top of the tomb in its place, which was done, and the members of the household who witnessed the last ceremony in the church returned to the Camden House.

The only inscription which the sarcophagus bears is that of "Napoleon III. R. I. P." Legend there is none, nor is there any list of titles mentioned, of country or date of death. Even imperial arms are not displayed: the names and the prayer which the letters represent, alone bearing witness to the fact that one of the Napoleons is interred in the Catholic Church of St. Marys of Chiselhurst.

The Times, commenting on the address of Gladstone, announcing the dissolution of Parliament, says the document reflects the characteristics of the genius of its author, and doubts the wisdom of the repeal of the income tax promised.

The Post says the address almost amounts to a coup d'etat.

The Standard is confident of a Conservative majority in the elections, and severely condemns the suddenness of the announcement of the dissolution.

All journals agree upon the popularity of the official measures promised in the address.

At London, January 26th, intelligence was received of the death of Dr. Livingstone, in the interior of Africa. He died of dysentery, while traveling from Lake Bembe to Unzianzembe. His body has been embalmed, and is being conveyed to England by way of Zanzibar.

Disraeli, in his address to his constituents in Birmingham, seeking re-election to Parliament, strongly condemns the course of the Government. He charges Gladstone with having violated constitutional law by persisting for several months in the occupation of a seat to which he was no longer entitled, and for inaugurating the Ashantee war without first communicating with Parliament, for which the premier is severely denounced.

France.

On January 22d, the Government issued an order forbidding the sale of the newspaper "Opinion Nationale."

The Assembly has appointed a Committee to liquidate the civil list of the late Emperor Napoleon. It is said that a majority of the members of the Committee are opposed to the Convention lately entered into by the Government and Eugenie.

Spain

The ironclad Numancia has arrived at Cartagena.

Admiral Topite, Minister of Marine, has gone to Cartagena with full power to investigate the circumstances of the Intransigente insurrection.

Santander is threatened by the Carlists and reinforcements of Government troops are hurrying forward.

General Dominiques, at the head of the Central Army has opened the campaign against the Carlists in Valencia.

Bavria, late member of the Cartagenian Junta, has written a letter to his friends advising them to abandon Federalism and support the National Government until the Carlist Insurrection is suppressed.

A Savannah dispatch says that according to Spanish official reports of the engagement at Los Malones, near Camaguay, there were 650 troops, under Espanda, against 1,800 insurgents. After a severe fight of six hours and a half, the Spaniards retreated, having four officers and fifty privates wounded. Espanda having his nose shot off. Private Cuban dispatches say Espanda had 1,200 men only, 250 of whom only escaped death, wounds or capture. Foreigners will be compelled to pay their quota of the forced loan of thirty millions, because their business depends upon its payment. The quota of some will amount to fifty thousand dollars. It is understood that ten thousand of the amount goes to pay soldiers.

Switzerland.

The Federal Council has appointed the 15th of October, 1874, as the day for the opening of the International Postal Convention.

Russia.

At St. Petersburg, January 21st, the ball given at the American Legation was a most brilliant affair. General Kauffman, commanding the Khivan expedition, and all the leading diplomatists were present.

At St. Petersburg, January 23d, the marriage of the Duke of Edinburg to the Grand Duchess Marie, was solemnized at one o'clock. The day was generally observed as a holiday, and since early morning, when salutes were fired, the streets were crowded with people. The festivities will continue several days. The city was gaily decorated, and illuminated Saturday and Sunday night. On Monday there was a grand review in front of Winter Palace, of the 41st Battalion, 37th Infantry, squadrons of Cavalry and Artillery, with a force of 140 guns. The weather is delightful and sleighing excellent.

Germany.

The Reichstag have been convoked for the 5th of February.

A. H. Hoffman, of Fallersleben, the popular German poet, died on the 21st, aged 75.

South America.

The trouble expected to arise in the South American States has in a measure blown over, chiefly owing to the intervention of Mr. Williamson, United States Minister to Central America, who has been able to persuade the several Presidents to submit the questions in dispute to a meeting to be called of all the Presidents of the five States.

Cuba.

As the United States steamer Worcester sailed from Havana, with band playing, the rabble gathered on the wharf and hissed as she passed, dipping her flag to the Moro Castle and other Spanish war vessels.

The Siamese Twins.

A special dispatch from Richmond makes the announcement of the sudden death of the celebrated Siamese twins on Saturday morning, the 17th, at their residence at Mount Airy, Surrey county, North Carolina. Chang was partially paralyzed last fall, since which time he has been fretful, debilitated, and strongly addicted to the use of liquor, as a means of alleviating his sufferings. He had been quite feebie for several days, so much so as to confine the brothers to bed. On Friday night Chang became worse, and expired suddenly about four o'clock Saturday morning. Eng became so terribly shocked that he raved wildly for awhile. This attack was followed by what seemed to be a deadly stupor, and in two hours, it is supposed, from the death of Chang, Eng breathed his last. The wives and families of the twins are in the deepest grief, the children, some of whom are deaf mutes, expressing their sorrow in the most pitiful manner.

A dispatch from Mt. Airy, N. C., says Dr. Wm. Hollingsworth, who attended the Siamese twins, is of the opinion that the death of Eng was not caused by any vital connection or artery passing from one to the other through the ligament that united them, and believing there was no such vital connection through the ligament, because he has attended the twins when one was sick and the other in good health, and when there was as much as 20 beats difference to the minute in their pulsation.

The bodies, after being enbalmed, were placed in a coffin and encased in a large tin box, which was soldered and made air tight. It was then put in a large wooden box and packed in charcoal and made secure, and placed in the cellar of the house.

It is reported that the bodies will be disposed of at an enormous price, to some museum or medical college, or placed on exhibition. This is to be subject to the decision of the members of the family. The charge is made that the veil of mystery has been thrown over the death of the twins, and the real cause of their decease is suppressed for the purpose of obtaining possession of their bodies for the above stated object. A dispatch from Greensboro says Dr. Joe Hollingsworth, brother of the doctor who attended the twins, while en route for the North, stated that his mission was to dispose of the dead bodies of the twins on the most favorable terms he could negotiate. The sum asked for the privilege of post mortem is said to be $8,000 to $10,000.

Marshal Bazaine.

The *Moniteur Universel* says: "We learn that the request made by the ex-Marshal's wife to be allowed to share her husband's captivity has been favorably received by the Government. The buildings contained within the enclosure of the fort which commands the Ile Sainte Marguerite are arranged in such a manner that it is possible, at little cost, to adapt them for the accommodation of the Marshal's family without any infringement of the rules for the internal discipline of State prisons. A special wing of the building will be devoted to the use of the Marshal and his family. A good-sized garden, which extends down to the glacis, will be surrounded by a wall, so as to satisfy the exigencies of prison rules and laws of humanity. The Marshal's wife, children, and servants will be able at all times to pass freely in any part of the house or the garden, but all will be required to pledge themselves to observe strictly the regulations laid down. The prisoner himself will be required to pledge his honor not to abuse in any way the facilities granted for allowing his family to modify the severity of his imprisonment. Col. Villette has returned to Paris to make the arrangements for the transfer of the family to Ste. Marguerite, and has, on behalf of Mme. Bazaine, expressed to M. Baragnon her gratitude for the concession granted to her, and has, on behalf of the Marshal and all his family, given the required pledge to observe all the regulations laid down for their governance."

Booty and Beauty.

The following good sleeping car joke is going about: A gentleman occupied an upper berth in a certain section and a lady the lower. In that dim, uncertain daylight which dawns on travelers in heavily curtained "sleepers," the gentleman above refetred to tried to find his boots, but nowhere about his narrow bed could he see more than one of them. Looking downwards he thought he saw another on the berth below him; so reaching down he tried to lift it up. Strange to say it lifted to a certain height and then fell from his hand. He tried again with the same result, and yet again with no better luck, when suddenly the boot apparently became endued with life and evaded his grasp. Then the situation flashed upon him and he became contrite. Contrition is a good thing, but it may also become a nuisance, for fancy the gentleman in the upper berth apologizing to the lady in the lower for mistaking her boot on her own foot for his own.

A Long Swim.

The Norfolk (Va.) *Chronicle* makes the announcement of the death of Samuel Brock, a Yarmouth beachman, the occasion of recalling his extraordinary escape from drowning in October, 1835. A vessel was observed at sea about 1 P. M., with a signal flying for a pilot, bearing east, distant about twelve miles. Brock, with nine others, launched the yawl Increase, and about 4 o'clock they came up with the vessel. Three of the beachmen went on board, and the remainder were sent away. On their way home a terrific squall to the yawl's sails flat aback, and she capsized. In a few minutes all the crew, with the exception of Brock, were drowned. It was then about 6:30 P. M., and the nearest land was six miles distant, dead low water, and Brock knew that the flood tide would be setting off shore making to the southward. The swell of the sea drove him over the Cross-sand Ridge, and he then got sight of the buoy of St. Nicholas' Gat, nearly opposite his own door, distant four miles from the land. He had then been five hours in the water. He next caught sight of a vessel at anchor. He got within 300 yards of the vessel, and hailed her; a boat was at once lowered; and at 1:30 A. M., having swam seven hours and a half in an October night, he was safe on board the brig Betsy, of Sunderland, nearly fifteen miles from the spot where the boat Increase was capsized.

The German Emperor.

The Berlin correspondent of the *British Medical Journal* writes: "The Emperor of Germany has now recovered from an attack which has caused his physicians much anxiety. It originated in a severe chill, and the trouble was increased by the supervention of symptoms of suppressed gout. The flying pains were very severe, and the pains in the head were at one time most distressing. Since then, the system has been happily relieved and the attack will now probably quickly pass off. The suppressed gout attacking the trunk as well as the extremities, is not agreeable, either to the patient or his attendants.

The Markets.

Produce Markets.

NEW YORK, January 29.—Cotton, 15¾c for middling uplands. Flour is dull and heavy at 5@10c lower; receipts 18,000 bbls; sales 5,000 bbls; $4 50@7 10 for extra state; $6 55@8 00 for round hoop Ohio. Wheat dull and 1@2c lower; receipts 118,000 bu; sales 34,000 bu; 156@158c for No 2 Chicago; 159c for No 2 Milwaukee. Rye quiet. Corn is dull and heavy; receipts 80,000 bush; sales 28,000 bu at 80@82c for new western mixed afloat. Barley is scarce and advancing; receipts 3,000 bu; sales 18,000 bush at 83c for western. Oats is dull and heavy; receipts 86,000 bu; 60c for mixed western; 61@62c for white do. Pork is without important change; $16 12½ for new mess; $14 75@14 87½ for old do. Cut Meats steady. Beef quiet. Lard is firm at 9 11-16c for steam; 9½@10c for kettle. Whiskey 100c. Sugar firm. Petroleum—6¾c for crude and 14½ for refined.

TOLEDO, THURSDAY MORNING, Jan. 29.—Flour—The market is quiet, with Fine at $4 00; Superfine, $4 50; Extra, $5 00, and Double Extra and Fancy, $7@8 00. Wheat—The market is a shade better, but quiet, with Amber at 149c spot and seller February; 153c seller March, and 157½c seller April. Extra White Michigan 161c; No 1 White 158c, and No 2 White Michigan 142c; White Wabash Wheat last sold at 161c for No 2 and 151c for No 3; the Red Wabash Wheat, No 1 is in moderate request at 155c; No 2 at 147c spot and 151½c seller March; No 3 at 135c, and Rejected at 121c. Corn—Prices as compared with those of a week ago, are generally 1@2c better, with a very quiet market. High-mixed sold at 61½@61¾c; New, 63c; in options, seller April sold at 70c and May at 71¾; Low-mix